



**Testimony in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 205  
Senate Rules Committee  
February 5, 2014**

**Submitted by  
Submitted by Laura Galino De Lovato, Development Director  
Oregon Food Bank**

**Curtis Salgado and Oregon Food Bank's Waterfront Blues Festival**

***Mission:***

*To eliminate  
hunger and its  
root causes. . .  
because no  
one should  
be hungry.*

Without Curtis Salgado the Northwest probably wouldn't have a Blues music scene. Curtis, with a few others including Robert Cray and the late Paul deLay, helped create and define the rich Northwest blues scene we have today, most visible in one of the world's great blues event, Oregon Food Bank's Waterfront Blues Festival. This festival is not only a mecca for blues fans and blues performers young and old; it is the biggest fundraising event for Oregon Food Bank.

Curtis Salgado and the Stiletto's played the Rose City Blues Festival in 1987. It was this event that morphed into Waterfront Blues Festival the next year. Curtis is a fan favorite at Waterfront Blues Fest and has played nearly every year of the past 27, missing maybe two or three at most. Curtis and his various bands have closed the main stage more times than anyone can count, usually on July 4th, bringing the crowd to a pre-fireworks blues frenzy. One of the strongest and most dynamic of the Blues Festival performances, Curtis was a featured guest two years ago with the legendary Steve Miller Band, playing harmonica and singing. Despite worldwide fame and well-earned awards, Curtis is one of the most approachable, friendliest and humble performers in the Blues world, taking time to chat with fans, have his photo taken and sign autographs.

Curtis has set the bar very high for aspiring blues musicians in this part of the world, for aspiring blues musicians everywhere. Oregon and the Waterfront Blues Festival are very lucky to have him.

Thank you for your consideration.

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