



Children First for Oregon

Speaking Up for Kids Since 1991

To: Senate Committee on Education and Workforce Development
From: Regan Gray, Children First for Oregon
Date: February 17th, 2014
Re: HB 4090

Chair Hass, Members of the Committee:

I am Regan Gray, representing Children First for Oregon. Children First's mission is to make Oregon a place where all children are healthy and safe and have the support needed to thrive. We believe that no child deserves to go hungry, and that's why I'm here to testify in support of HB 4090.

HB4090 provides assistance and grant funds for school districts to implement Summer Food programs. This bill will help ensure that children in Oregon are getting their nutritional needs met. Over half of Oregon students qualify for free or reduced-price lunch and nearly 20% of children live in poverty. Summer Food programs are important for the health and well being of these kids.

Many of our districts do not have the financial resources to begin these programs; HB 4090 will provide assistance and funding for additional districts to create program sites to serve the children in their communities. By expanding programs that help meet the nutritional needs of children, we can better ensure that all students have food options available during summer.

We want to ensure that every child in Oregon has the opportunity to develop into a healthy and happy adult, able to give back to the state of Oregon. HB 4090 helps us get there; please support this bill.

Thank you.