



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, Governor

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Testimony in support of HB 4090
Senate Committee on Education and Workforce Development
February 18, 2014

Chair Hass, Vice Chair Knopp and members of the Committee:

The Oregon Commission on Black Affairs (OCBA) and Commission for Women (OCFW) strongly support HB 4090 enabling ODE to grow participation with grants for the summer lunch and snacks as well as grow after schools snacks for kids who too often know hunger and suffer from its effects educationally.

Families of color and single moms struggle most to make ends meet and keep their children fed. The bright young people from these households must be ready to learn and play with sufficient meals and snacks. This bill is an opportunity to take Oregon's current good work on ending hunger for young learners to the next level. The OCBA and OCFW historically have worked towards advocating for increased access to nutritious food and great education for women and their diverse families across Oregon.

Whatever we can do in 2014 to reduce hunger and its far reaching effects for school kids is a year we have gained in raising the achievement of youngsters who want to do well in school. Building our resources for school lunch, snacks and after school snacks is a proven part of that outcome.

Thank you for your positive consideration of this bill.

Sincerely,

James I. Manning, Jr.
Chair, Oregon Commission on Black Affairs

Stephanie Vardavas
Chair, Oregon Commission for Women

OR Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander Affairs

Stephen Ying, Chair
Mari Watanabe, Vice Chair
Legislative Liaisons:
Sen. Michael Dembrow
Rep. Gene Whisnant

OR Commission on Black Affairs

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James Morris, Vice Chair
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OR Commission on Hispanic Affairs

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John Haroldson, Vice Chair
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Sen. Chip Shields
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OR Commission for Women

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