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Hunger-Free Oregon

Ending hunger before it begins.

To: House Committee on Housing and Human Services
From: Matt Newell-Ching, Public Affairs Director
Subject: Statement on HB 3405
Date: April 6, 2017

We appreciate the efforts of Rep. Hayden to ensure that an innovative pilot proposal to allow monthly distribution of child care tax credits would not have a negative impact on that household's food assistance.

HB 3405 satisfies a prior concern we raised as to whether a monthly distribution of child care tax credits would be classified as "countable income" in determining eligibility and benefit levels for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). The bill would require that the Department of Human Services request a waiver from USDA to exclude monthly distribution from countable income. HB 3405 would give much-needed clarity to ensure families wouldn't lose all or part of their SNAP assistance if they participate in the pilot program that is envisioned.

We believe HB 3405 is the right approach moving forward.