

Sandi Mata
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HB 2830

My name is Sandra Mata, I live in Portland, and I'm here because I care deeply about SNAP program . I'm very concerned that because corporations pay so little in taxes in Oregon, we are going to have to make cuts to this service. I hope you will put hungry Oregonians first.

The bill you are considering is a positive development and I support it, but families like people I meet daily deserve far more and I hope the legislature will pass a tax increase that will be able to make a meaningful difference in our state.

For my clients, cuts would be devastating and would mean fewer workers, longer wait times to get food benefits. Right now I see cases where people lost their job, have children and have no money for food. Because of current cuts, I have had people crying, starving waiting over ten days for basic food. We are unable to keep up with the growing demand of more low and no income families. East Portland alone has over 80,000 cases and families in need of food help. If there are cuts in services, the wait time to get assistance will be longer. And I work with people that want to feed their children! How would you like to have a hungry child in front of you, and be told it will be over two weeks to get an interview with worker to get some food for your family?

We can't keep piecing together budgets like this. We need a revenue package that is significant and reverses decades of disinvestment in our schools and services. I'm urging you not just to raise new revenue, but to raise game-changing revenue that makes a significant difference.

We can't let the hungry wait longer for basic food and necessities because there's less workers to help them. They are counting on you. Thank you for your time