

To: Senate Committee on Human Services
House Committee on Human Services and Housing
From: Mike Millard, Chair, PSU Committee for Improving Student Food Security
DATE: March 6, 2019
RE: SB 727 & HB 2837

Dear Chair Sara Gelser & Chair Alissa Keny-Guyer,

The Committee for Improving Student Food Security (CISFS) at Portland State University fully support SB 727 and HB 2837. The CISFS recognizes the struggle that students in higher education currently experience with food insecurity while attending the University.

A 2018 Portland State University Student Survey indicated that 42% experience concern when it comes to having enough food on the table each month. A major goal of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) is improve access to healthy food options under the program.

The campus at Portland State hosts one of the largest farmers markets each Saturday. Another market takes place a few blocks away on Wednesdays between May and November. Making it easier for market vendors to provide their products to SNAP recipients would encourage students to shop from local growers on their doorstep.

These bills will allow students access to healthier and fresher options. Thank you for your time and consideration.



**Committee for Improving
Student Food Security**

