

HB 2833 & HB 2834

STRENGTHEN THE OREGON HUNGER TASK FORCE

All people have the right to be free from hunger. People most impacted should be leaders in designing and enacting solutions.

Our state is facing a widespread hunger crisis

1 in 4 Oregonians are facing hunger- a doubling from the pandemic. That's 1 million people.

The pandemic has laid bare the disparity that has always been true in our state- along racial, gender and economic lines- and has only deepened the struggles people face to afford the essentials like groceries.

Emergency responses have helped, but more bold and swift public policies are required in 2021 and the coming years.

To build food security, we need to construct a more just and resilient anti-hunger system

The Oregon Hunger Task Force was created by the State Legislature in 1989. Since that time, the cross-sector group has set a clear road map for government action and investments and has supported significant policy achievements and system-wide coordination. Member organizations and agencies are collectively serving hundreds of thousands of Oregonians.

However, the infrastructure that delivers information, funding, benefits, and food assistance across our state is stretched thin. People are being left out. More is needed to fully meet the need, truly recover, and prevent the predictable and unjust pain of the next natural disaster or economic state of emergency.

HB 2833 and HB 2834 increase the ability of the Hunger Task Force to provide meaningful and timely research, coordination and recommendations to the state to holistically tackle hunger. These bills update statute so that membership better reflects people with lived experiences of hunger, communities most impacted, and increases funds to reflect the actual cost of delivering the equitable outcomes the state needs right now.

OREGON HUNGER TASK FORCE

Creating Policies for a Hunger-Free Oregon

HB 2834 - Representative and Inclusive Membership

We, as a state, understand that racism, sexism, transphobia and other forms of oppression are root causes of disparities in hunger. **People who have experienced poverty and hunger at these intersections are experts in addressing food insecurity.** The Hunger Task Force, with an updated membership structure, will have more "ears on the ground" to inform more equitable state policy and programs.

HB 2834 would modify membership guidelines so that for the first time the Task Force will be made up of **one third individuals representative of communities most impacted by food insecurity**, along with one third representatives of updated key stakeholder groups, and one third legislators & state agencies.

HB 2833 - Adequate Funding

Rebuilding Oregon's food security takes investment. HB 2833 allocates an additional \$150,000 in the coming biennium, to increase the capacity and equitable impact of the activities of the Hunger Task Force to support the state's policy on hunger.

The budget of the Task Force has been fixed at \$75k a year, with the value of those dollars steadily eroding over the years. State funding now covers less than 1 full staff position, let alone project **costs to make participation on an advisory body truly accessible for those facing hunger and poverty, and to respond to the scope of the pandemic.**

Support HB 2833 and HB 2834

Support HB 2833 & HB 2834 - Ensure more equitable statewide community engagement and policy development and support the participation of Hunger Task Force members with lived experience of hunger from impacted communities on the front lines of hunger state-wide.

For more information about the Oregon Hunger Task Force, the status of hunger and recommended solutions, visit www.OregonHungerTaskForce.org

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