

Submitter: Paula Rix

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Early Childhood and Human Services

Measure: HB2728

Dear Chair Reynolds, Vice Chairs Nguyen and Scharf, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Paula Rix and I am a resident of Eugene. I am writing to request your support for HB 2728.

HB 2728 supports the expansion of Double Up Food Bucks Oregon, a SNAP matching program with a proven record of success. For every dollar spent on SNAP-eligible foods at participating farmers markets, farm stands, CSA programs, and grocery stores across the state, shopper will receive an additional dollar to spend on Oregon-grown fruits and vegetables.

This program is important to me because we need to continue to strive to end food insecurity everywhere but the best place to start is in our own state, our own communities. It is a proven fact that food insecure individuals do not function as well as those that eat a well balanced daily diet. Children do not process things as well on an empty stomach. Energy from food is what enables our bodies and mind to function, to learn, to be healthy individuals. A healthy diet of fruits and vegetables will enable children and adults to perform at their best. If you've never been food insecure then you have no idea how important it is to help these individuals. Try going a few days without eating, or eating a healthy diet. Your body and mind start to get sluggish, shutting down, unable to think or move physically. We have the means to succeed in keeping this from happening. It is every humans right to eat, to lead a life that's not hindering us because of food insecurity. We are a rich nation and there is no reason that we can't pass this bill for the people of Oregon that would benefit.

With inflation at its highest it is difficult for most people to feed themselves and their families. I am a senior on a limited income and the cost of food is ridiculous but I know the importance of eating healthy. We have to help these people with supplemental nutrition assistance and HB 2728 is a way to do this. I am asking you to please pass this bill and help those that would benefit from this to live healthier lives. It is a basic human right and you have the means to achieve this.

Thank you for the consideration and for your service.

Paula Rix, Eugne