

Date: 2/27/2023

To: Senate Committee on Human Services

RE: Support SB 610

Dear Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Robinson, and members of the Committee,

My name is Beatriz Osuna and I live in Washington County. Today I address you in a respectful manner about the concern I have over the situation of families who do not have access to such a basic and essential resource, food. I am writing in support of Senate Bill 610, Food for All Oregonians, which would ensure all our neighbors, regardless of immigration status, have access to the food they need to keep them and their families healthy.

I can testify to the many families I know who live from their retirement funds but due to the current world crisis we live in it has made it more expensive to live in. It is not enough to buy their food and cover the basic needs. Especially when they depend on their one salary. Many of the times in order to cover costs like food they collect items such as cans and sell them. There are many people who would benefit from this legislative proposal. There is a lot of need and we need your support to achieve it. Food for All Oregonians is a very important campaign that will make a difference in our community. I know it can be achieved.

This bill is also very important to me because:

- I am a mother with a single income and at times it is not enough to cover the most basic element I need to survive, food.
- I have lacked food when we lack an income and do not qualify for stamps.
- I have families who do not have children and are of legal age and cannot receive stamps.

We know that when we all have access to food, we're all better off. Kids do better in school, our families' health and well-being improves, and our economy thrives through the support of local businesses. This is true in every corner of Oregon—in rural, urban, and suburban communities alike. When all of our neighbors are getting the food that they need, all of Oregon thrives.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share with you my testimony and again respectfully ask for your support by voting yes on this important bill.

Respectfully,

Beatriz Osuna