



February 27, 2023

Yes on SB 610

Dear Chair Gelsler Blouin, Vice-Chair Robinson, Members of the Committee:

My name is Amy Wong and I am the Board Chair of the Oregon Organic Coalition (OOC), based in Lyons, Oregon. The OOC was founded by organic leaders over 15 years ago to bring together businesses, farmers, and other stakeholders to promote and grow the organic market and practices in Oregon. When rooted in organic's core principles of health, ecology, fairness, and care, the OOC believes organic production can create more equitable and resilient regional food systems.

The organic tenet of fairness can encompass ensuring all of our neighbors, regardless of immigration status, have access to the food they need to keep them and their families healthy, as called for in Senate Bill 610, Food For All Oregonians. Many OOC members regularly make in-kind food and other donations to support greater food security and will continue to do so.

The OOC also supports the legislature removing hurdles to accessing food in communities that need it most. Food for All Oregonians will create a state-funded program that eliminates exclusions to SNAP, makes applying for assistance more welcoming, and provides families with money for groceries that matches federal SNAP food assistance benefits.

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.

Please support Food for All Oregonians.

Thank you for your service,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Wong". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Amy Wong
Oregon Organic Coalition