

Submitter: Sara Levasseur

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Education

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3435

I work with the nutrition services department at a school district in Portland, and I know firsthand how important it is that ALL students have access to free breakfast and lunch every day. Many families struggle to afford meals, and there is a sense of relief for parents when they know their students have access to nutritious food at school. When every student has access to free meals there is no stigma, no paperwork barriers, and a strong sense of equity in the school community. Students with access to free meals are ready to learn, grow and succeed regardless of their family's financial situation. It's not just about food - its about giving every student the foundation for a better future.