

Submitter: Jon Roschke
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB611

TO: Senate Committee on Human Services FROM: Organics to You, 898 SE Stark St, Portland, OR 97214 2025 SUBJECT: Yes on SB 611 Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and Members of the Committee, My name is Jonathan Roschke, Owner/Operator at Organics to You, and we are in strong support of Senate Bill 611, Food For All Oregonians which would ensure Youth and Elderly Oregonians, regardless of immigration status, have access to the food they need to keep them and their families healthy. Over the past several years, Organics to You has partnered with several organizations and agencies across the country to help bring SNAP payments online for all to have easy access. We have developed an online portal to accept payments, and our business which has served the Portland/Vancouver community for over 20 years can now serve even more. If Senate Bill 611 passes it will bring fresh fruits and veggies to even more homes, and allow even more local residents to use and support the local farmers who grow healthy produce at a reasonable cost. Since beginning to accept SNAP/EBT payments, we have seen the appreciation and gratitude of thousands of customers who now are able to use our service and receive local food delivered to their door. These customers are often home bound, disabled, elderly, sick, and just simply busy raising their children and working their job(s). Supporting their local farms sounded great, but they feared it was too costly or too time-consuming to do so. Now with the SNAP/EBT programs that have been developed (such as online payments, Double Up Food Bucks, and partnerships at farmers' markets), we see a more diverse and broad ranging audience receiving our goods. Senate Bill 611 would increase that impact even more. The greatest part is the support, awareness, and ultimately increased revenues that the local farms and local food distributors receive when these programs are developed with small local farms and businesses in mind. Like every small business, Organics to You struggles day in and day out to keep the dream alive and keep our doors open. The boost that was created by SNAP would be amplified with this bill. Farmers are excited to be a part of feeding low-income communities, local food distributors like Organics to You want to be a part of getting healthy food to folks in need, and the people and communities that receive this food are proud to support their local economy. This is why I am urging your YES vote on SB 611. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Jonathan Roschke Owner/Operator, Organics to You Portland, OR