

Submitter: Meghan Planchon

On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Human Services

Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB611

TO: Senate Committee on Human Services SUBJECT: Yes on SB 611 Chair Gelser Blouin, Vice-Chair Linthicum, and Members of the Committee, I am a resident of Portland, Oregon writing in strong support of SB 611 Food For All Oregonians which would ensure all Oregonians, regardless of immigration status, have access to the food they need to keep them and their families healthy. I have worked for nearly 17 years with low-income people in Portland and in that time I have seen the way poverty destroys families. And the most fundamental way this happens is when people do not have enough to eat. The immigrant families I have known came here in the hopes they could make a better life for their families. Often fleeing hopeless circumstances. They are human beings doing what we all do-- trying to survive the best they can. Access to food should not depend on where someone was born. It should depend on a human's need alone. Our laws should represent our deepest sense of humanity. These people are part of our community. They live, work, raise families, pay taxes. They contribute to our community. 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. When all of our neighbors are getting the food that they need, all of Oregon thrives. This is why I am urging your YES vote on SB 611. Thank you for your time. Meghan Planchon, Portland, Oregon