

Submitter: Lana Rowley
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Joint Committee On Ways and Means
Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB5006

I was fortunate to attend an event last week at the state Capitol sponsored by Oregon Food Bank. "Food ForAll Oregonians" is a simple slogan to express that all people deserve to be fed and immigration status shouldn't exclude anyone from access to life-sustaining food.

As a retired police officer and current volunteer for Meals on Wheels I have seen firsthand the stress that food insecurity has on the most vulnerable in our communities. Senate Bill #611 would help feed Oregon's youth and elders.

Washington and California already have similar programs in place.

Immigrants and refugees are essential in our communities as they often hold essential jobs in food production, childcare and healthcare. Feeding people is one of the easiest ways to improve lives and provide dignity and security. Food assistance also improves children's academic performance and reduces the risk of eviction.

I would like to encourage you to contact your legislators to support Senate Bill #611 Food For all Oregonians is good for us all.