

School Meals for All (SB 1581)

To Senate Committee on Education,

My name is Jennifer Sandoval, and I am a constituent residing in Eastern, Oregon. I was that student. As the child of a single immigrant mother who often worked two jobs, I frequently relied on school breakfast because there was no time for her to prepare it at home. Because of this, I made sure to visit the cafeteria every morning to start my day. Furthermore, there was a period after my mother remarried when we no longer qualified for free and reduced-price lunch, nor for SNAP. This meant I had to pay for my meals. Once I owed the school a certain amount, I was cut off and would simply skip lunch. **You cannot learn effectively when you are hungry, worrying about when you will eat next. My afternoon engagement and my GPA suffered significantly as a direct result.**

Thank you,

Jennifer Sandoval

Ontario High School graduate