

Date: 02/06/2026

To: Chair Frederick, Vice-Chair
Senate Education Committee

From: Adelante Mujeres

RE: Support SB 1581



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My name is Petrona, and I am the Leadership and Advocacy Manager at Adelante Mujeres, which means “Women Rise Up”. Adelante Mujeres is a non-profit organization in Forest Grove. Our organization has a rich history of successfully engaging low-income Latine and immigrant communities by acting as a forum for community advocacy. Adelante Mujeres’ mission is to provide holistic education and empowerment opportunities to low-income Latine women and their families to ensure full participation and active leadership in the community.

On behalf of Adelante Mujeres, I am writing to express **support for Senate Bill 1581**, School Meals for All, which would ensure that every student can access breakfast and lunch at school at no cost, regardless of income. This is a critical step to addressing hunger during an affordability crisis and ensuring that students can focus on learning rather than worrying about food.

At Adelante Mujeres, we know first-hand the impact it can have on a child and their families when their children receive their three meals a day. In our early childhood education program, we offer culturally specific, and nutritious meals to all participating children. Many times, this is the most nutritious meal a child receives because their families do not have the ability to afford it when they’re worried about higher pressing issues like rent or utility bills. We see a similar impact on families participating in our Produce Prescription Program. They are not only facing a diet-related chronic illness but also facing food insecurity. Food incentive programs such as SNAP play a crucial role in making healthy food options accessible to vulnerable populations who otherwise would depend on food banks or schools to provide for them and their children.

These are our neighbors, our family, our friends, our students, the children our kids play with, our coworkers and their loved ones— the people who help make Oregon a beautiful place to live. Ensuring equitable access to food is essential to the well-being of our communities. Research and lived experience consistently show that when students have reliable access to nutritious food, schools see improved attendance, fewer disciplinary incidents, and stronger academic outcomes. SB 1581 is a smart investment in Oregon’s students and our future.

With only a small number of schools remaining before Oregon becomes a Hunger-Free Schools state, I urge you to vote for YES on SB 1581 and ensure that no child in Oregon goes hungry at school.

We know that when we all have access to food, we're all better off.

Thank you for your time and leadership.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized capital letter 'P' with a horizontal line extending from the top and a vertical line extending from the bottom, all enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

Petrona Dominguez Francisco
Leadership & Advocacy Manager, Adelante Mujeres