

OREGON HUNGER TASK FORCE

Creating Policies for a Hunger-Free Oregon

To: House Committee on Revenue
From: Patti Whitney-Wise, on behalf of the Oregon Hunger Task Force
RE: Support for SB 1507
Date: Wednesday, February 18, 2026

Chair Nathanson, Vice Chair Reschke, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Patti Whitney-Wise, and I am here today on behalf of the [Oregon Hunger Task Force](#) (OHTF), which I staffed before my retirement in 2016. Created by the Legislature in 1989, the Oregon Hunger Task Force is a legislatively mandated advisory body that brings together lawmakers, state agencies, advocates, service providers, and people with lived experience of hunger. The Task Force serves as a statewide resource to research hunger, coordinate across systems, and recommend policy solutions to reduce food insecurity in Oregon.

I am here today to share support for SB 1507, especially the 5% increase in the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).

With rising costs and federal cutbacks on low-income supports, the EITC will be an even more important buffer for families to help pay down debt or help with rent or other basic needs for their families.

The Oregon Hunger Task Force has worked in the past to increase Oregon's EITC, as a hunger-prevention program, especially benefiting families with young children, who need food, a roof over their heads and nurturing to flourish. We also recognize the local stimulus effect of these dollars circulating in local communities throughout the state.

At a time when federal policy decisions are shifting costs and risk onto states and families, increasing the EITC represents a smart, preventative investment that supports children, stabilizes households, and advances long-term food security.

The Oregon Hunger Task Force urges your support for SB1507 as an essential component of Oregon's response to hunger and economic stability.

Thank you,
Patti Whitney-Wise, Contract Lobbyist, OHTF