

SENATOR CHRISTINE DRAZAN PRESS RELEASE

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Christine Drazan Calls for Action and Compassion as SNAP Benefits End

CANBY, Ore. – Today, **Senator Christine Drazan (R-Canby)** called for Oregonians to stand in the gap for their neighbors as Oregon's governor fails to lead on the imminent hunger crisis resulting from the federal government shutdown.

"Where is our governor? It's been weeks since notices went out to Oregonians that SNAP benefits would end. It's clear Governor Kotek is not acting with urgency to protect struggling families," said **Drazan**. Notices of SNAP benefit reductions were first mailed to families on **October 15th**.

While neighboring Washington State has already announced <u>plans</u> to provide **\$2.2 million** per week to support food banks affected by the shutdown, Governor Kotek has yet to present a plan.

"If Washington State can step up to protect its residents, why can't Oregon?" **Drazan** asked. "Families can't wait for the Governor to play catch up. We need leadership and action now."

Drazan, urging the development of nonprofit coalitions alongside legislative action, said, "We need to find creative, short-term solutions to keep Oregonians fed, and long-term plans to ensure that no one goes hungry."

"I'll be volunteering and supporting my local food bank over the coming weeks, and I ask Oregonians who are able to do the same," **Drazan** added. "Please consider donating your time, money, or non-perishable foods to your local food banks, pantries, and churches. Our friends and neighbors are going to need us. It's time to get to work."

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