



## SENATE MAJORITY OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 11, 2025

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### **Oregon Senate Democrats Advocate for Oregon Food Banks in Letter to Federal Agency**

*Senators urge the administration to put vulnerable families ahead of tax cuts for the wealthy*

**SALEM, OR** – Oregon Senate Democrats today called on the federal government to resume shipments of fresh and nonperishable food supplies to the Oregon Food Bank, a network of 21 organizations located all across the state. Every member of the Democratic caucus signed on to a letter telling Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins that recent cuts directly threaten the wellbeing of vulnerable Oregon families.

“The idea for this letter came to me when I heard that the Trump Administration was cutting emergency support to Oregon food banks by a third,” said **Senator Jeff Golden (D – Ashland)**. “I invited all members of the Senate to sign on to the statement. In the end, these 18 did.”

In March the Agriculture Department began canceling shipments of fresh and nonperishable food that had been available to food banks under the Emergency and Food Assistance Program. It is a \$500 million program that had allowed charities to order free, nutritious, U.S.-grown food supplies, including fresh bartlett pears, frozen ground beef, canned green beans, and rolled oats.

“This comes out while the Administration is pushing very hard to renew a tax cut structured to most profit the wealthiest Americans,” Senator Golden observed. “I found the combination of these two things so shocking that I thought Oregon Senators might be able to unite across party differences to publicly say ‘This is wrong.’”

The full letter is available online here: <https://bit.ly/TEFAP-cuts>.

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