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Democrats spurn food bank tax credit

Salem, OR – Senate Republicans appealed to their Democrat colleagues Sunday afternoon to include a small tax credit for farmers donating produce to the Oregon Food Bank. The motion to include the credit as part of the tax credit extension bill was rejected on party lines.

“I am shocked that the Democrats voted no on a proposal to help farmers donate food to the Oregon Food Bank,” said Senator Herman Baertschiger (R-Grants Pass). “This was a chance to help one of Oregon’s most important hunger relief organizations.”

The farm crop tax credit, expected to cost the state a mere \$100,000 over the next two years, was widely lauded and had a minimal fiscal impact to the state.

“This credit would simply have allowed farmers to help out hungry Oregon families and subtract it from their tax bills,” said Senator Chuck Thomsen (R-Hood River). “It is a good idea for the Oregon Food Bank, a good idea for hungry Oregon families, and a good idea for Oregon farmers.”

In addition to the food bank credit, Republicans have also pushed for extension and expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit, a form of tax relief for low-income class Oregonians.

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