

Senate State Affairs Committee

Thursday, March 21, 2024 - 8:00 A.M.

TESTIMONY ON: All Subjects

Written Testimony

Name (First & Last)	Subject	Manner Testifying	Representing Company/Organization	City	For / Against	Wish to Testify	District #
Megan Larsen	H 603	W	self	Meridian	Against	N	21

I am Vice Chair of the Idaho Diaper Bank Board of Directors, but am offering my testimony representing myself. The Idaho Diaper Bank provides diapers to children in the Treasure Valley whose families cannot afford them, keeping babies and families healthy, and enabling parents to continue working. No government assistance is available at the federal or state level to help families with diapers; non profits like ours are the only source of assistance. IDB has a network of partner agencies through which it distributes diapers. Our partner agencies help support our work with modest but required contributions, and we are able to multiply those contributions and distribute hundreds of thousands of diapers to families in need annually. These partner agencies include governmental agencies, such as schools and the Department of Health and Welfare. These agencies work with families in need already, and partnering with them allows us to meet diaper need in an efficient and cost effective way. While this legislation would only cut off families that receive diaper assistance through Department of Health and Welfare, I am fearful that left unchallenged, the legislature will push down on local jurisdictions as well in a future session, creating unnecessary hardship for Idaho's youngest and most vulnerable citizens and their families.