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Written Testimony
House Bill 2720
House Taxation Committee
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Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in support of House Bill 2720.

Passage of this bill, providing a refundable food sales tax credit to low income families, would meet to concerns that teachers frequently bring forward.

Every day teachers interact with children who are food insecure; children who may not have had dinner the night before and are absolutely dependent on their time in school to provide them with a good breakfast and a hot lunch. Hungry children cannot concentrate on lessons and so cannot always benefit from classroom instruction to the same degree that other children can. While this bill will not totally eliminate food insecurity, it will provide families with a greater ability to put food on the table.

Beyond simply putting food on the table, a refundable food sales tax credit will enable parent to choose more nutritional foods. Sadly, many of the most affordable foods are also the least nutritious. Fresh fruits and vegetables are often out of reach to the lowest income families. Anything we can do to encourage more nutritious eating habits is a benefit to our children.

We would encourage this committee to consider the children. Please pass HB 2720 and help provide more and better food for families that struggle economically.