

December 11, 2025
NW25-032

To: Northwest Regional Council
From: Nova Dubay, on behalf of the NW MAC
Subject: **NEW BUSINESS:** NW Union Food Donation Program

Background

In the United States today, the federal government provides nine out of the ten meals that feed our communities through funding various programs like SNAP.

That essentially means that if something we're to happen on Capitol Hill that disrupted this funding, as had occurred at the beginning of November 2025 during the shutdown of the federal government, 42 million Americans would lose access to 90 percent of the safety net that prevents a rise in food insecurity and starvation.

The remaining 10 percent is what is provided through local and state means, and while SPEEA can't solve the problem on its own, we must act to contribute so that we can ensure our communities do not have to worry about basic survival needs like food as much as possible.

The MAC committee on December 9th, 2025, acted decisively, and worked to brainstorm a way we as a union can assist those who are struggling to keep food on the table. What is now brought forth is the idea the MAC committee ironed out and agreed upon.

Personally, I believe that this proposal, while not perfect, is a solid step in the right direction. And I gladly support any progress made on this vital issue. I thank the MAC committee for their efforts and hope the SPEEA council can move forward with approving this for the good of us all.

Motion

It is moved that: **The NW MAC requests that at the SPEEA Union halls in Tukwila and Everett, SPEEA staff or member volunteers set up and allow for the collection of items that may be of assistance to food banks in designated bins. These items can include food, or any items deemed essentially needed by the Puget Sound Labor Agency Food Bank.**

These bins contents will be collected at least monthly, with contents going to the Puget Sound Labor Agency Food Bank. SPEEA staff or member volunteers at the respective union halls will arrange for transport from PSLA to pick up the contents each month or sooner if the bins fill sooner.

Additionally, if the collections bins fill completely before the end of each month SPEEA staff or member volunteers at the union halls will arrange transport to empty the bins so that more can be collected before the end of the month that this occurs.

The food bank recipients can be further expanded beyond the PSLA if the NW MAC deems it necessary and trusts that the additional food bank(s) will act in good faith.

The success of this program will be reviewed 1 year after its implementation.