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Jennifer Fontaine, from the Upper Valley Haven in Hartford, Vermont, and a Vermont Foodbank network partner. I am here today to ask you to please support the Vermont Foodbank with an appropriation of \$6 million for FY2023 to address ongoing increased food security needs.

Food insecurity for any family in Vermont is not ok. We have an urgent and important need right now and we look to our state leaders to fund solutions to addressing hunger today. Every day we see at least 50 households experiencing food insecurity coming to our doors for help. We are able to do the work we do because of the support of the Vermont Foodbank. They help us have reliable, consistent access to healthy food options for our customers- items like fresh produce, dairy, meats, and whole grains, that many of us take for granted, but that the food insecure do not. As we all face rising prices of everything from food to fuel, no one feels that pressure greater than those already struggling financially. Food is often the first thing cut from someone's budget. The Foodbank helps us provide a crucial safety net for people.

Again, I ask that you please support the Vermont Foodbank with an appropriation of \$6 million for FY2023 to address ongoing increased food security needs. Thank you for listening.