

February 8, 2007



The Honorable Elaine Alquist  
State Capitol, Room 4088  
Sacramento, CA 95814

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**RE: SB 107 – SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Alquist:

California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA), whose mission is to promote the health and well-being of low-income Californians by improving their access to nutritious and affordable food, is pleased to support SB 107, which would provide underserved communities with more healthy shopping options.

Throughout our 15 year history, we have worked to increase access to fresh produce in low-income communities. Specifically, we have launched a number of projects that have transformed “mom and pop” grocery stores into enterprises that stock and sell fresh fruit and vegetables. Given the growing obesity epidemic, we need to invest in more of these community efforts to improve access. We believe SB 107 would stimulate such investments.

Last year our organization sponsored legislation, AB 2384, which seeks to make fresh produce more affordable to low-income people. To be successful, low-income people, of course, also need *access* to fresh, quality produce. California needs SB 107 so that low-income can both afford and access fresh fruits and vegetables.

Low-income communities need support for a variety of healthy-food options: mobile markets, buyers’ co-ops, independent grocery co-ops, revitalization of public markets, and others. SB 107 has the flexibility to support any of these options that fit any community’s needs.

CFPA appreciates your efforts to improve the health of Californians. We are pleased to offer our support of SB 107.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Hecht".

Kenneth Hecht  
Executive Director