



Los Angeles Office  
205 S. Broadway, Suite 205  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

March 10, 2017

Honorable Scott D. Wiener  
Chair, Senate Human Services Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 521  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Support SB 282 (Wiener) – The Reducing Hunger Among Vulnerable Californians Act of 2017**

Dear Chairperson Wiener:

California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) supports your bill, Senate Bill 282 (Wiener), which will increase access to prepared food for low income homeless, elderly or disabled Californians and create real job opportunities for childless homeless adults.

CFPA is a statewide, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of low-income Californians by increasing their access to nutritious, affordable food. Throughout our more than 20 years of experience, we have worked to achieve a healthy and food secure California. Increasing access to prepared food and meaningful employment opportunities for CalFresh participants will help reduce hunger among vulnerable Californians.

Despite the recent economic upturn and job growth in the country, many Californians remain unemployed or under-employed and hungry. They have limited access to publicly funded employment assistance needed to get and hold a paying job and move toward self-sufficiency.

SB 282 will increase access to jobs and reduce hunger among vulnerable adults by:

- Requiring the Department of Social Services to seek a federal waiver that would allow counties participating in CalFresh E&T to offer subsidized employment to unemployed childless adults facing the CalFresh three-month time limit and;
- Codifying the CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) and clarifying that counties can target the program to certain regions or food retailers.

For these reasons, CFPA supports SB 282 and looks forward to helping you secure passage of this important measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jared Call".

Jared Call, Managing Nutrition Policy Advocate

CC: Jessica Bartholow, Western Center on Law and Poverty (Sponsor)

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