



# 2022 State Policy Agenda

We believe that hunger is a solvable problem, and our State Policy Agenda is a key element of our commitment to advocating for just, equitable public policies that address the root causes of hunger.

This year, we asked our network of community-based partners, our staff, and our supporters to tell us what hunger looked like in their community and how we should combat it. The message was clear: **we need to address the hunger we see today, but we must also focus on preventing hunger through advocating for changes to systemic issues that drive neighbors to turn to our services.**

## Invest in Food Banks to Meet the Need Today

### CalFood Funding

Request \$120 million in funds for food banks statewide to purchase CA-grown foods

### Food Bank Climate & Capacity Funding

Request \$180 million to strengthen capacity and climate resilience for food banks to prepare for the impacts of climate change and ongoing increase in demand for service

### Food Bank Equity Transformation Pilot

Request \$5 million to launch a pilot program in collaboration with the five Bay Area Food Banks to address historically high food insecurity and promote equity in California's agricultural system



## Improve Economic Security

### SB 854 (Skinner), the HOPE for Children Act

Establish Baby Bonds, paid to children who lost a parent or caregiver to COVID-19, as well as eligible foster youth to build wealth among this disadvantaged population

### AB 1941 – State Supplemental Payment (SSP)

Require the amount of SSP aid paid to recipients to be increased by \$600 if there is a surplus in the state budget for that fiscal year.

### Access to Public Benefits for Formerly Incarcerated People

Request funding to streamline access to Public Assistance programs including SSI and CalFresh and increase Release Allowance for formerly incarcerated people



## Feed Our Youngest Californians

### SB 1483 (Becker) Food with Care

Expand free childcare meals to all kids by enabling all childcare providers to receive the highest federal reimbursement rate for meals served

### SB 364 (Skinner) – School Meals

Build on the historic success of Universal Free School Meals by establishing the Better Out of School Time (BOOST) Nutrition Program to prevent child hunger during school breaks or campus closures

## Ensure Equitable Access to CalFresh

### AB 2153 (Arambula) - CalFresh Fruit & Vegetable EBT Pilot

Expand the Fruit and Vegetable EBT Pilot to boost benefits for a greater number of CalFresh households in more diverse regions of the state

### SB 641 (Skinner) – College Hunger

Make CalFresh benefits more accessible to eligible college students by removing administrative and procedural barriers to enrollment

### AB 1965 (Wicks) – CalFresh Access

Create the CA Antihunger Response and Employment Training (CARET) program to ensure that CalFresh recipients considered Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents do not lose vital food benefits

### SB 464 (Hurtado) – Food4All – Immigrant food access

Provide state-funded nutrition benefits to all Californians ineligible for CalFresh solely due to their immigration status

### SB 1413 (McGuire) – Food Access for Native People

Provide access to CalFresh nutrition benefits for Native American households currently ineligible solely because they receive food through a different federally-funded program

## Promote Sustainable Food Systems

### Food and Farming Resilience Coalition

Invest in farmworker safety and wellbeing, healthy food access, climate resilient farms and regional food economies.

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Learn more about our advocacy priorities in our full [Policy Platform](#).

#### Questions?

Please contact Meg Davidson, Director of Policy & Advocacy  
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