

The Food Bank is energized by our shared vision for the future: a community where everyone has access to nutritious food of their choosing, is uplifted by a network of support, and all can thrive.

We advocate tenaciously for upstream policy solutions that address both the consequences and root causes of hunger, and our State Policy Agenda is a key element of our strategy to effect change.

The policies and budget investments we're supporting address the concerns raised by our community in our **2024 Policy Priorities Survey**, including supporting food access for seniors, children, and our immigrant neighbors, and advocating with our government leaders to strengthen the social safety net.

Everyone has a role to play in advancing our policy priorities — whether it be gaining new knowledge and understanding of an issue, mobilizing colleagues and friends to act, or raising your voice in support at legislative hearings.

## *Invest in Food Banks to Meet the Need Today* // // //

**CalFood** — Provide increased ongoing funding beginning in the 2025-26 state budget to sustain the CalFood program at \$60 million annually.

## *Protect and Strengthen the Social Safety Net* // // //

### **CALFRESH**

**AB 1967 (Jackson) Food Insecurity Officer:** Improve coordination of government resources and outcomes by creating a Cabinet-level position to address food insecurity statewide.

**SB 245 (Hurtado) / AB 311 (Santiago) — Food4All:** Expand CA Food Assistance Program to provide food benefits to all income-eligible people, regardless of immigration status.

**SB 1254 (Becker) — The F.R.E.S.H. Act:** Improve CalFresh access for people re-entering their communities after incarceration by requiring the Department of Social Services to partner with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

**AB 2033 (Reyes) — EBT on College Campuses:** Improve access and utilization of CalFresh for college students by requiring at least one store located on each campus of the California Community Colleges to accept EBT.

**Ensure CalFresh Benefits are Adequate:** Provide a permanent state supplement to raise the CalFresh minimum monthly benefit from the current \$23 to at least \$50.

**End Exclusionary CalFresh Policies:** Reduce administrative access barriers to CalFresh to ensure that all eligible Californians can enroll with ease and dignity. Protect Californians from the harsh Federal Able-Bodied Adults Without Disabilities time-limit through a supplemental state-funded benefit.



## TAX CREDITS

**AB 2191 (Santiago):** Increase awareness and uptake of state and federal tax credits for low-income Californians by codifying the Outreach, Education, and Free Tax Preparation Assistance Grant Program.

## SCHOOL & CHILDCARE MEALS

**School Meals For All:** Ensure continued, adequate funding to strengthen student nutrition programs including school breakfast and lunch.

**Summer EBT:** Boost Summer EBT benefits to \$120 per month to prevent child hunger while school is out of session.

**Food with Care:** End the discriminatory reimbursement rate gap that underpays and undervalues family childcare home providers serving healthy meals to kids in their care.

## FOOD AS MEDICINE

**AB 1975 (Bonta):** Transition medically supportive food and nutrition interventions from optional services in healthcare to permanent Medi-Cal benefits.

## SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI)/ STATE SUPPLEMENTARY PAYMENT (SSP)

**Increase Assistance for Seniors and People with Disabilities:** Address benefit adequacy for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) by ensuring annual grant increases and establish grants at the Elder Economic Index.

## CALWORKS

**End Child Poverty:** Lift CalWORKs grants above deep poverty (50% of the Federal Poverty Level) for all households and eliminate punitive policies to maximize aid for families.

## Promote Sustainable Food Systems

**Farmer's Market Nutrition incentives:** Restore proposed cuts to ensure continued support of the California Nutrition Incentive Program, including programs like Market Match.

**AB 408 (Wilson):** Support the funding of climate-resilient farms, sustainable healthy food access, and farmworker protection via a state bond measure

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Learn more about our advocacy priorities in our full [Policy Platform](#).  
Join our advocacy work by signing up for [Action Alerts](#).

**Questions?** Please contact Marchon Tatmon, Associate Director of Policy & Advocacy; [mtatmon@sfmfoodbank.org](mailto:mtatmon@sfmfoodbank.org)

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