



SAN FRANCISCO FOOD BANK

February 26, 2008

The Honorable Jenny Oropeza
Chair, Senate Revenue and Taxation
State Capitol, Room 408
Sacramento, CA 95814

Via Fax: (916) 327-9234

Dear Senator Oropeza,

The *[your organization]* strongly supports SB 1101 (Cedillo) and encourages you to reauthorize this important policy.

SB 1101 would reauthorize the Emergency Food Assistance Program (EFAP) tax check-off. California tax payers can choose to donate from their state tax refund or add a contribution to their tax bill for EFAP. This money goes directly to California food banks to help purchase basic and healthy foods like rice, beans, canned tuna and peanut butter.

Last year, the EFAP tax check off raised more than \$438,000 for local food banks. In my community we received *[insert dollar amount]* which allowed us to purchase *[X]* pounds of *[list types of food here, i.e. high-protein items]* and in turn helped provide more than *[X (pounds / 1.28)]* meals for low-income families, children and seniors in my community.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics the cost of food has increased 5.7% in the last year. At the same time commodity foods from the federal government have dropped by 60% in the last four years. With more than 8 million Californians living below 150% of the poverty level, the equivalent of \$26,000 for a family of three, food banks are serving more people with less food. Having this source of funding to purchase nutritious staples is critical to our state's anti-hunger network.

On behalf of the *[number of people you serve]* people we serve, please support the reauthorization of EFAP tax check off and vote in favor of SB 1101.

Sincerely,

Name
Executive Director