



AB 1577 (Eggman) California Farm to Food Bank Tax Credit

California's agricultural industry leads the nation, yet more than 5 million Californians, including one in four children, suffer from food insecurity. Ensuring access to healthy food is vital to California's future – our people, our farms, and our economy.

Many California farmers and producers want to donate to food banks, but the cost of harvesting, transportation, and storage can make a donation prohibitive. Farmers must invest labor, water and equipment resources whether products are brought to market or donated to neighbors in need. What's more, California's current tax credit, meant to help offset these costs, only applies to fruits and vegetables – excluding nutritious and expensive items like meat, eggs, dairy and nuts that are hard for food banks to access but support a health population.

AB 1577 would increase access to healthy foods for low-income Californians by offering most California agricultural producers a 10 percent tax credit for the inventoried value of foods donated to food banks. To obtain donated food, food banks must compete with other ways that growers dispose of excess crops – including food going to waste – and a tax credit helps tip the balance for growers to contribute to food banks. Making our food system more efficient is crucial, as scarce water has raised the cost to produce food – making it harder for farmers to donate food and making healthy food increasingly out of reach at the grocery store.



AB 1577 WILL DRIVE DONATIONS TO FOOD BANKS BY...

... HELPING FARMERS TO FEED THEIR COMMUNITIES

by supporting access to complete nutrition. This includes making eligible for the credit many healthy but expensive foods that are difficult for food banks to access, including meat, dairy, rice, beans, and eggs.

...PROVIDING CERTAINTY TO FOOD BANK DONORS BY EXTENDING THE SUNSET TO 2019.

LOW COST, HIGH IMPACT

A tax credit for agricultural donations leverages a minimal state investment to supply an enormous amount of healthy food to low-income Californians. Every dollar in credit leverages approximately 10-20 pounds of donated food. AB 1577 would support our farmers to conserve precious resources by limiting food waste, reducing greenhouse gases and helping ensure a steady supply of foods that support a healthy California.



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Supporters

Anti-Hunger, Health & Environmental Organizations

Hunger Advocacy Network (co-sponsor)
Alameda County Community Food Bank
American Academy of Pediatrics California
California Food Policy Advocates
Californians Against Waste
Community Action Agency of Butte County
Community Action Partnership of San Bernardino County
Community Food Bank, Fresno
Feeding America Riverside | San Bernardino Counties
Feeding America San Diego
FIND Food Bank, Riverside
Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County
Food Bank for Monterey County
Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano Counties
Food Bank of El Dorado County
Foodbank of Santa Barbara County
Food for People, Inc., Humboldt
FOOD Share, Inc., Ventura
FoodLink for Tulare County
Hunger Action Los Angeles
Imperial Valley Food Bank
Interfaith Council of Amador County
Jacobs & Cushman San Diego Food Bank
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank
MAZON | A Jewish Response to Hunger
Natural Resources Defense Council
Napa Valley Food Bank
OC Food Bank
Orange County Food Access
Redwood Empire Food Bank
Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services
San Diego Food Bank
San Diego Hunger Coalition
Second Harvest Food Bank of Orange County
Second Harvest Food Bank of San Joaquin & Stanislaus
Counties
Second Harvest Food Bank of Santa Clara & San Mateo
Counties
Second Harvest Food Bank Santa Cruz County
SF – Marin Food Bank
St. Anthony's, San Francisco
Western Center on Law & Poverty
Westside Food Bank
Yolo Food Bank

Agriculture, Farms & Other Businesses

California Farm Bureau Federation (co-sponsor)
California Bean Shippers Association
California Cattlemen's Association
California Fresh Fruit Association
California Grocers Association
California League of Food Processors
Deardorff Family Farms
Fabbri Ag Investments
Fowler Packing Company
Grimmway Farms
HMC Group
McClarty Farms
Prime Time International
Sharp HealthCare
Sun World International, LLC
Van Groningen & Sons, Inc.
Vessey & Co., Inc.
Western Growers Association
Western United Dairymen



CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF FOOD BANKS

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