



of SANTA CLARA and
SAN MATEO COUNTIES

2018 Public Policy Agenda

Second Harvest Food Bank has officially adopted the following positions on 2018 federal and state public policy issues to further our vision of a hunger-free community.

Federal Policy Agenda

Protect and Strengthen Federal Nutrition Programs in Budget and Spending Legislation

Federal nutrition programs are currently at risk. This is alarming because these programs provide a critical safety net by helping families and individuals put food on the table during times of need. Investing in hunger prevention and relief is not only humane, it is fiscally sound. Hunger increases health care costs, lowers worker productivity, harms children's development, and hampers students' ability to perform at school.

2018 Farm Bill

The 2014 Farm Bill is set to expire on September 30, 2018. The upcoming reauthorization process provides an opportunity to make improvements and new investments in food and nutrition programs covered under the bill.

- Protect the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, CalFresh in CA)
- Protect other food and nutrition programs including The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) and Meals on Wheels
- Increase TEFAP funding for food purchases, storage and distribution
- Oppose any proposals for cuts, block grants or structural changes to programs that would increase hunger and cause economic hardship
- Provide support for growers and producers to connect excess food to communities in need

H.R. 1276 Closing the Meal Gap Act of 2017

Adams

Makes many key improvements to SNAP to better account for the cost of food and living expenses.



2018 Public Policy Agenda

California State Policy Agenda

BUDGET



CalFood – State Emergency Food Assistance Program [Support]

Invests \$20.6 million to enable California food banks to purchase and distribute California-grown foods.

Breakfast After the Bell – School Breakfast [Support]

Strengthens and expands California's Breakfast After the Bell grant program for high-poverty schools.

LEGISLATION



AB 1871 [Support]

Bonta

Ensures low-income K-12 students attending public charter schools have access to at least one nutritious meal a day at school.

AB 1892 [Support]

Jones-Sawyer

Extends Transitional CalFresh benefits to a broader group of Californians leaving safety-net programs.

AB 1894 [Support]

Weber

Builds on previous legislation to improve access to federal anti-hunger benefits for California's low-income college students.

AB 1952 [Support]

Mayes, Steinworth, Arambula

Establishes a workgroup responsible for drafting a plan to create a hunger-free California.

AB 1957 [Support]

Berman

Modernizes laws governing communication between public social services and program applicants and recipients.

AB 2297 – Hunger Impact of 2018 [Support]

Arambula

Increases benefits for CalFresh households and requires additional benefits for cash-aid recipients who have a special diet or food-preparation need.

SB 900 [Support]

Wiener, Arambula

Enables the CalFresh Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT) system to integrate incentives for eligible purchases of California-grown fruit and vegetables at grocery stores and farmers' markets.