



## AB 515 (Eggman) Tax Credit for California Agricultural Donations to Food Banks

**California's agricultural industry leads the nation, yet more than 6 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 cost prohibitive. Farmers must invest the same 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 – excludes most food producers, and those who are eligible must navigate a burdensome accounting process.

AB 515 would increase access to healthy foods for low-income Californians by offering most California agricultural producers a 20 percent tax credit for the wholesale 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 515 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 expensive foods that are difficult for food banks to access, including meat, dairy, rice, beans, and eggs.

#### ...ENCOURAGING MORE DONATIONS BY VALUING DONATIONS ON 20% OF THEIR WHOLESALE VALUE

instead of the current 10% of inventoried value, which effectively excludes many producers.

#### ...PROVIDING CERTAINTY TO FOOD BANK DONORS BY EXTENDING THE SUNSET TO 2024.

### 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 515 would support our farmers to conserve precious resources by limiting food waste and help ensure a steady supply of foods that support a healthy diet to Californians in need.



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### AB 515 SUPPORTERS

#### ORGANIZATIONS

Alameda County Community Food Bank  
California Food Policy Advocates  
California Hunger Action Coalition  
Center for Human Services, Stanislaus  
Community Action Partnership of Butte County  
Community Action Partnership of Kern County  
Community Food Bank, Fresno  
Feeding America Riverside|San Bernardino Counties  
Feeding America San Diego  
Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo 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 Advocacy Network  
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles Regional Food Bank  
OC Food Access  
Redwood Empire Food Bank  
Resource Connection Food Bank, Calaveras  
Roots of Change  
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  
SLO County Food System Coalition  
St. Anthony's Foundation, San Francisco  
Western Center on Law & Poverty  
Yolo Food Bank

#### FARMS & BUSINESSES

California Farm Bureau Federation (co-sponsor)  
California Bean Shippers Association  
California Cattlemen's Association  
California League of Food Processors  
Prima Frutta Packing, Inc.  
Sierra Orchards  
Western Growers Association  
Western United Dairymen



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#### CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF FOOD BANKS

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