



March 22, 2017

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The Honorable Scott D. Wiener
Chair, Senate Human Services Committee
State Capitol, Room 4066
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: SB 282 (Wiener) – CalFresh
As Amended on March 15, 2017 – SUPPORT
Set for Hearing on March 28, 2017 – Senate Human Services Committee**

Dear Senator Wiener:

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) is pleased to SUPPORT your SB 282, which would increase access to prepared food for low income homeless, elderly, or disabled Californians while creating real job opportunities for childless homeless adults.

Despite California having the fastest overall rate of job growth in the country, many Californians remain unemployed or under-employed and hungry. They have limited access to publicly funded assistance while real job prospects move further and further out of reach. SB 282 will increase access to jobs and reduce hunger among these vulnerable adults by:

- Requiring the Department of Social Services to seek a federal waiver that would allow counties participating in the CalFresh Employment and Training program to offer subsidized employment to able-bodied adults without dependents
- Codifying the CalFresh Restaurant Meals Program (RMP) and clarifying that counties can target the program to certain regions or food retailers

It is for these reasons that CSAC supports SB 282 and respectfully requests your “Aye” vote to increase access to jobs and reduce hunger in vulnerable adults. Should you or your staff have additional questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 327-7500 ext. 509 or dbaker@counties.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "DeAnn Baker".

DeAnn Baker
CSAC Deputy Executive Director, Legislative Affairs

cc: The Honorable Scott Wiener, Member, California State Senate
Honorable Members, Senate Human Services Committee
Taryn Smith, Consultant, Senate Human Services Committee
Cathy Senderling-McDonald, Deputy Executive Director, County Welfare Directors Association of California