



**CALIFORNIA FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INDEX** ● Number of Californians who don't have access to clean water: 1 million ● Percentage of K through 12 schools that don't meet state standards for providing clean drinking water: 25 percent ● Amount of water that can be absorbed by a single pound of soil organic matter: 64 pounds ● Amount of carbon stored in riparian zones compared to adjacent range and cropland: 2 times more ● Amount of carbon sequestered in an acre of organic cropland compared to an acre of conventional cropland: 17 times more ● Percentage of California that consists of grasslands with a vast potential to store atmospheric carbon: 50 percent ● Total amount of crop and rangeland in California: 25.5 million acres ● Amount of nitrogen applied to crops lost to the environment according to UC researchers: 50 percent ● Percentage of nitrogen leached into California groundwater from the state's cropland: 88 percent ● Percentage of California groundwater polluted with nitrates: 15% or 800 of 12,150 public wells tested, mostly concentrated in the poorest parts of the state ● Amount of nitrogen leached from organic cropland compared to conventional cropland: 20 to 50 percent less ● Average amount of annual income that farm worker communities, primarily Latino, spend on bottled water: 10 percent ● Percent of Californians living in or near poverty: 40% ● Number of California children living in poverty: 2,047,259 or 23 percent of the child population ● Annual household income defined as below the poverty line for a family of 3: \$19,790 ● Current average hourly wage of a farmworker: \$9.50 ● Average annual household income of a farmworker's family: \$18,750 ● Number of farmworkers employed in California: 417,000 ● Number of Americans employed in food chain enterprises: 20 million — one-sixth of the workforce. ● Percentage of the retail price for a basket of strawberries paid to the worker that picked them: 6% or about 20 cents ● Percentage of California farmworkers estimated to be food insecure: 44-66% ● Number of low-income California students in the 2014-2015 school year who received free or reduced-price school lunches: 2,262,765 or 70% of low-income children ●



Dr. Martin Luther King said, "The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice." California's food movement began in the 1960s with farmers growing food organically, farmworkers demanding better working conditions and Black Panthers serving free breakfasts to kids in underserved communities. Our movement's progress remained slow but steady in 2016, reflecting Dr. King's wise statement on the nature of change.

This is the fourth year Roots of Change has joined with the California Food Policy Council and key nonprofits to form the Policy Work Group. Our goal is to move the Legislature and Governor toward innovation in food and agriculture policy that will create a healthier California and nation.

It is a challenging process to speak with one voice. Each year we create a master list of bills in several categories. We discuss each one. Then every member rates each bill as high-, medium- or low-priority. This yields numerical scores that set our priority list for tracking and reporting.

Weighted averages often mean that less controversial bills — rather than the most transformative ones — receive the highest scores. A good example this year was AB 2757 Farmworker Overtime. This was so controversial when first proposed it did not make the list of the top ten bills to be tracked. Many sustainable farming advocates felt conflicted, but opposed the bill. Labor and food justice groups were heavily in favor. Such divergence on this fundamental issue of economic justice revealed how hard the food movement must work to campaign collaboratively.

Too many legislators still overlook the fundamental link between food, agriculture and public health. Too many agencies, farmers, and trade groups resist change — even when change seems inevitable. The nonpartisan research group, MapLight, reports that the beverage, retail and conventional agriculture industries contributed over \$3 million to current California legislators. In contrast, sustainable food and farming interests gave less than \$30,000! This imbalance requires the food movement to become both better-organized and better-funded.

Even our children realize the urgent need for new policies. A fourth grade class from the Novato Unified School District sponsored a successful bill to help small seed savers protect heirloom fruits and vegetables. We hope this is a sign of what's to come!

This year's new section dedicated to California Food and Agriculture Policy Champions and the Roots of Change Legislator Scorecard reflect the commitment of hundreds of organizations to challenge and praise our elected officials. Together we must make the hard decisions to create a more just and healthier California. We trust this report will move both legislators and citizens to vote with food and farms in mind and further bend the arc of history toward policies that serve us all.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "m. dimock".

Michael R. Dimock  
President, Roots of Change & Strategic Advisor, California Food Policy Council

# CALIFORNIA FOOD POLICY COUNCIL'S TEN GUIDING PRINCIPLES



1. Ensures access to nutritious, culturally appropriate food as a basic **human right**.  
The CAFPC supports policies and practices that contribute to the establishment of food production and distribution systems that ensure easy access to healthy, sustainable, and affordable food and potable water in all communities.



2. Reduces health and income disparities and the concentration of resources, while upholding the dignity, security, and self-determination of all the communities it serves.  
The CAFPC supports **equity-enhancing** policies and practices that strengthen opportunities and benefits for disadvantaged farmers, workers, businesses and communities that experience disproportionate environmental, economic and health hardships.



3. Makes the healthiest choice the easiest choice. The CAFPC supports policies and practices that promote **health** and result in food environments that provide access to an abundance of affordable, fresh food choices, incentives to consume healthy, humane, local and California-grown foods.



4. Protects and restores our **environment** and vital natural resources, such as air, water, soil, biodiversity, climate, and wildlife and eliminates waste wherever possible.  
The CAFPC supports policies and practices that prevent resource degradation, encourage waste reduction and composting, promote conservation farming and reduce chemical inputs and energy use, while taking into consideration the need to ensure abundant production and economically viable farm and food businesses.



5. Supports a vibrant and diverse food and agriculture **economy** comprised of businesses of multiple scales that sell into local, regional, state, national and international markets, while creating strong linkages and benefits for our local and regional economies.  
The CAFPC prioritizes policies and practices that strengthen local and regional food and agriculture businesses as an effective way to deliver widespread economic benefits to small- and mid-scale producers, while achieving greater equity, health, access, consumer awareness and long-term connections between farmers and consumers.





6. Recognizes that a fair food system requires **functional immigration and labor policies** that uphold the dignity, safety, and quality of life for all who work to feed us. The CAFPC supports policies and practices that ensure living wages for all food system workers, including opportunities for advancement and ownership, and that expand employment in the food sector.



7. Recognizes the vital role of **education** in preparing our youth to become the next generation of informed eaters, producers, and food chain workers. The CAFPC supports policies and practices that build school food environments that are based on healthy, sustainably produced, California-grown food. We support curriculum that incorporates food literacy and garden-based education, promotes the links between producers and consumers, health, food, and the environment and gives children, families and community leaders the resources they need to learn about food production, nutrition, cooking and food economics.



8. Values our **farmland and fisheries** and the hard work and commitment of our farmers, fisherfolk, and ranchers. The CAFPC supports policies and practices that will protect agricultural land, rivers and oceans and provide the necessary incentives, resources, technical support and outreach to help beginning and existing producers to thrive economically while delivering healthy, affordable and sustainably produced food.



9. Operates within a **global** food system that generates economic, political, and market realities that impact the choices of California producers, food businesses, policymakers and consumers. The CAFPC recognizes the need to reform global policies in order to remove barriers to a healthy, equitable, vibrant and sustainable California food system.



10. Requires that all food system stakeholders are engaged in the political process and in vigorous dialogue with each other at the local, regional, state and national level. The CAFPC encourages and actively engages in this dialogue with members of government, community organizations, academia, public health organizations, food producers, labor, food industry representatives, business, policy advocates and the public to create meaningful and effective **collaboration**.

## ANALYSIS 2016

The recent 2016 legislative session delivered some encouraging gains related to food chain worker wages, climate change, soil building and healthy food access. This may indicate a welcome shift toward more investment in food and agriculture. Yet before debate could even begin, powerful interests thwarted other bills to protect school children from pesticides, alleviate hunger, advance food-related entrepreneurship and levy impact fees on obesity-inducing sugary beverages.














Of the Policy Work Group's top 15 bills of interest for 2016, just six have become law. Eight were defeated. One was passed, but vetoed by Governor Brown. Although defeated, two of the bills (AB 1350 & AB 2757) ultimately resulted in positive outcomes. The results look worse when considering that four bills strongly supported by the Policy Work Group were Dead on Arrival (DOA). We believe the Legislature can and must do better. There are too many interrelated public health, ecological and economic challenges connected to food and farming to simply sweep tough decisions aside.

A handful of bellwether issues identified by the Policy Work Group gained ground this year. Farmworkers — long suffering among the lowest wages of American laborers — will receive a raise in the coming years. Public health advocates, farmers, and local food activists succeeded in extending the tax credit for food donations to food banks and increasing state funding for nutrition incentives that make California's fresh produce more affordable. The ecological farming community, working together with the California Department of Food and Agriculture, gained modest funding to help farmers build healthy soil and adapt to the realities of global warming.








































The imperatives for creating a just and more sustainable food system are clear. The income gap between rich and poor must narrow. Carbon must be removed from the atmosphere and stored in the soil — the foundation of our farms, forests and grasslands. Methane and other potent greenhouse gas emissions must be minimized. Farmers and ranchers need more avenues to earn revenue that covers the true cost of food. California can and should lead the charge. In spite of these imperatives, our efforts remain hobbled by insufficient state and federal investment to expand less toxic and more resilient agriculture practices and to build the new businesses that can deliver affordable local food.

These interconnected challenges are larger than federal and state governments' abilities to address them alone. Our public sector must join with communities to implement positive changes. By passing model legislation around food and farming, California could leverage more federal, state and private funding that enables communities to achieve environmental, economic and food justice for all people — wherever they live.

### KEY BILLS THAT WERE DEAD ON ARRIVAL

<b>AB 2782</b>	Sugary beverage health impact fee	Dead on Arrival	   
<b>SB 1247</b>	Organic innovation zones around schools	Dead on Arrival	  
<b>AB 2593</b>	Preparing food for sale in private homes	Dead on Arrival	  
<b>AB 608</b>	Simplified meal access for low-income students	Dead on Arrival	  

### TOP 15 PRIORITY BILLS FOR THE 2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

<b>AB 1810</b>	Protect seed swappers from regulation	Passed	 
<b>SB 1350</b>	Healthy soils and ecological farming incentives	Held in Senate Appropriations	  
<b>SB 904</b>	Extending CalFresh benefits to adults in need	Held in Senate Appropriations	  
<b>SB 3</b>	Raise minimum wage by 2022	Passed	 
<b>SB1317</b>	Groundwater extraction protections	Defeated in Assembly	  
<b>AB 1577</b>	Tax income credits for food banks	Passed	 
<b>SB 1282</b>	Labeling and restricting bee-killing pesticides	Voted down	 
<b>AB 2715</b>	Energy-efficient housing for farmworkers	Defeated in Senate Appropriations Committee	  
<b>AB 2751</b>	Eligibility to make small investments in local foods	Defeated in Assembly Appropriations Committee	  
<b>AB 1584</b>	Cost of living allowance for SSI recipients	Passed and vetoed by the Governor	 
<b>AB 2757</b> <b>AB 1066</b>	Farmworker overtime pay (initially defeated then re-introduced with nearly original language)	Passed	  
<b>AB 1826</b>	Improved organic certification to benefit farmers	Passed	  
<b>AB 2424</b>	Community health improvement fund	Defeated in Senate Appropriations Committee	  
<b>AB 2054</b>	Summer EBT benefits for children	Defeated in Senate Appropriations Committee	   
<b>SB 2324</b>	Updated farmers' market sales regulations	Passed	



# ECOLOGICAL FARMING

Agroecological concepts and practices are taking root in new policies and agency programs. However, this year's gains were offset by too many lost opportunities. Bills designed to protect our children and help our farmers move away from harmful practices failed. Short-term profit taking still wins out over health and resilience. Two successful climate bills — SB 32 (a high priority of the Policy Work Group in 2015) and AB 197 — were not tracked because they weren't directly related to food and farming. Still, they will further regulate and reduce greenhouse gas emissions over the next 20 years and better protect the state's most disadvantaged communities. These bills reflect the public's growing concern about the future and the need for bold action.

## Wins

**AB 1810** California Seed Sharing Law, Marc Levine (San Rafael)  
Policy Work Group Member Support: California Farm Link (CFL), Center for Food Safety (CFS), CAFF, Ecology Center (EC), Eden Area Food Alliance (EAFA), Farmers Guild (FG), Humboldt FPC, Orange County Food Access Coalition (OCFAC), Pesticide Action Network (PAN), Sustainable Economies Law Center (SELC), Slow Food California (SFC)

► This bill ensures that small seed savers can swap seeds without being impeded by regulations applied to large commercial seed companies. It's good news for those who care about locally adapted heirloom and traditional plant varieties and the preservation of agricultural biodiversity.  
*Passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.*

**SB 1350** Agriculture Lands: Greenhouse Gases: Healthy Soils Program, Lois Wolk (Davis)

► While the bill itself did not pass, it influenced the Legislature and Governor to appropriate \$7.5 million for California's soil, a groundbreaking development. These funds will provide farmers with incentives to compost, reduce nitrogen fertilizer use, plant trees and shrubs as hedgerows, and use other practices that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, sequester carbon and conserve water. The California Climate and Agriculture Network (CalCAN) and Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) led an input process involving California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF), Pesticide Action Network (PAN) and Roots of Change (ROC) that strengthened language authorizing the program.

**AB 1826** Update of Organic Products Certification Regulation, Mark Stone (Santa Cruz)

PWG Support: CCOF, CFL, CalCAN, FG, PAN, ROC

► This bill recast and revised the composition of the California Organic Products Advisory Committee and will lead to reduced certification fees and record-keeping burdens.

*Passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.*

## Losses

**DOA, SB 1247** Ag Innovation Zones,  
Hannah-Beth Jackson (Santa Barbara)  
PWG Support: CalCAN, CCOF, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), PAN

► The bill would have provided voluntary incentives for farmers to adopt healthy practices that protect school children from exposure to agrochemicals. The industry fought the incentives, arguing that the bill would bolster the perception that conventional agriculture is unsafe.

**SB 1317** Conditional Use Permit: Groundwater Extraction,  
Lois Wolk (Davis)  
PWG Support: CalCAN, CAFF, NRDC

► The bill would have required a city or county overlying a high- or medium-priority basin to create an oversight and permitting process for new groundwater extraction. Despite resistance from the conventional agriculture industry, this proposal — intended to jump-start important groundwater regulations passed in 2014 — passed in the Senate but was defeated in the Assembly.

**SB 1282** Pesticides, Neonicotinoids, Mark Leno (San Francisco) and Ben Allen (Santa Monica)  
PWG Support: CFS, Friends of the Earth, PAN, Sacramento FPC, SFC

► Already banned in Europe, Neonicotinoid pesticides are widely recognized as harmful to bees and other pollinators. The bill would have required new labeling on nursery plants and seeds treated with these pollinator-killing chemicals to inform citizens of their impacts and to restrict use.  
*Defeated in the Senate.*

*“Food costs need to reflect the social costs that are being added to the expense side of farmers’ ledgers. The long-term health of resources requires a willingness to include costs that have been divorced from the value chain— clean water, biological diversity, rural community well-being, soil health, human workers in agriculture including both farmers and farmworkers, and healthy food picked at its optimal maturity and flavor.”*

*Paul Muller, partner Full Belly Farm*



# HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS

With some of the highest rates of poverty in the country, California faces desperate challenges related to healthy food and fresh water access. There were more losses than victories starting with the Healthy California Fund, a proposed health impact fee on sugary beverages. A bill meant to study the possibility of extending additional CalFresh benefits for water purchases among farmworker communities was defeated in committee. The many losses listed below indicate that the Legislature is reluctant to establish new policies to reduce hunger, which would benefit the state's poorest citizens. We recognize that legislators may believe that the increases in minimum wage and overtime, rather than new safety net programs, will sufficiently raise incomes and expand access to healthy food and clean water.

## Wins

Funding for **AB 1321** Nutrition Incentive Matching Grant, Phil Ting (San Francisco)

PWG Support: Roots of Change (ROC), PHI, Latino Coalition for a Healthy California (LCHC), EC, Berkeley Food Institute, California Center for Public Health Advocacy (CCPHA), California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF), California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA), California Food Policy Council (CAFPC), CFS, CAFF, EAFA, Farmers Guild, Hunger Action Los Angeles (HALA), Los Angeles FPC, Nutrition and Fitness Collaborative of the Central Coast, OCFAC, Plumas-Sierra Community Food Council, San Diego Food System Alliance, San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance, SFC, SELC

► Sponsored by ROC, PHI, LCHC, and EC, the Nutrition Incentives Act became law in 2015, but was left unfunded. Thanks to aggressive campaigning in 2016 by the organizations listed above, the Legislature and Governor appropriated \$5 million over 2 years to help low-income families afford California-grown fruits, nuts and vegetables from farmers' markets, farm stands, CSAs and small retailers.

**AB 1577** CalFood Program, Susan Eggman (Stockton)

PWG Support: CAFF, HALA, CFPA

► By amending an existing law, this bill increased the value of contributions to food banks from farmers, packers and processors by altering how the state's tax credit is calculated. Most of the food donated comes from the fields. The changes help farmers cover costs of harvest and delivery. Advocates believe the improvements will help reduce hunger and food waste. *Passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.*

## Losses

DOA, **AB 2782** Healthy California Fund, Richard Bloom (Santa Monica)  
PWG Support: ROC, PHI, LCHC, CFPA, California Immigrant Policy Center (CIPC), EC, FG, Long Beach Fresh, OCFAC

► The bill would have levied a health impact fee on distributors of sugary beverages to generate up to \$650 million per year for community food production, nutrition incentives and improved school meals and nutrition education. Advocates believe this is the best way to fund food justice and diabetes prevention programs. A small but powerful coalition of sweetened beverage industry defenders lobbied to kill the bill before it could be heard in the Assembly Health Committee.

DOA, **AB 608** CalFresh: School Meals, Rich Gordon (Palo Alto)

PWG Support: CFPA

► The bill would have required counties to notify families applying for CalFresh about nutrition assistance programs in the local area. It also would have allowed for their children to receive free and price-reduced school meals while their CalFresh applications were pending.

**SB 904** Public Services CalFresh, Robert Hertzberg (San Fernando)

PWG Support: CFPA, CIPC, HALA

► The bill would have aligned all counties with a waiver of federal guidelines that currently limit able-bodied adults without dependents to just three months of CalFresh benefits over a three-year period. Advocates state the bill would justly expand eligibility for nutrition assistance to all residents. *Killed in Senate Appropriations.*

**AB 1584** Cost of Living Allowance for Supplemental Security Income, Cheryl Brown (San Bernardino)

PWG Support: HALA, OCFAC, CFPA

► The bill would have reinstated a monthly cash benefit for low-income seniors and people with disabilities who are not allowed to receive CalFresh food benefits. *Passed by the Legislature but vetoed by the Governor.*

**AB 2424** Community Health Improvement Fund,

Jimmy Gomez (Los Angeles)

PWG Support: PHI

► The bill would have created the Community-based Health Improvement and Innovation Fund for allocation to the Department of Public Health to reduce health inequity and disparities. Included a provision to fund the elements of AB 2782 for community food production, nutrition incentives and improved school meals and nutrition education, but at a much reduced level. *Killed in Senate Appropriations.*

**AB 2054** Nutrition Assistance: Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer for Children, Tony Thurmond (Berkeley)

PWG Support: CFPA, CCPHA, Humboldt FPC, HALA, OCFAC, ROC

► The bill would have improved nutrition for low-income children in summer months when free and price-reduced school meals are unavailable. The Department of Finance estimated high administrative costs to set up the program. *Passed through the Assembly but was killed in Senate Appropriations.*

# ECONOMIC VIABILITY FOR LOCAL FOOD AND SMALL PRODUCERS

California lacks a diversity of funding mechanisms required for agricultural innovation that could build new markets and strengthen ecological sustainability. Government-funded university research is limited. Most of it is from federal sources that favor industrial agriculture over organic and agroecological practices. Despite growing opportunities to develop food production in the urban-rural interface, most California communities are considered urban and therefore don't qualify for US Department of Agriculture economic development programs. Venture capital firms are focused on investments that will generate huge returns when companies can be taken public. We need to attract investors willing to support forward-thinking companies that may generate lower short-term profits. In past years, multiple bills to reform securities laws to allow individuals to more easily invest in smaller, local ventures have stalled. This year, in part due to a fiscal assessment from the state's Department of Business Oversight, the Assembly Appropriations Committee killed AB 2751, a bill meant to facilitate community investment in beginning farmers, local food entrepreneurs and agricultural land trusts. California would benefit from more funding and more flexible regulations to unleash entrepreneurship in food and agriculture.

## Wins

**AB 1321** Nutrition Incentive Matching Grant,  
Phil Ting (San Francisco)

See page 7 for PWG Supporters

► This bill could generate up to \$12 million in additional direct sales to small- and medium-scale farms selling via farmers' markets, farm stands and CSAs — a nearly 7 percent increase over the \$170 million in direct sales from 2014. *Passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor in 2015; funded in 2016.*

**AB 2324**, Update Certified Farmers Markets' Regulation,  
Susan Eggman (Stockton)

PWG Support: CAFF, SELC

► The bill updates definitions to the Certified Farmers' Market regulations and requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture to consider impacts on market operators and vendors when proposing new regulations. *Passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.*

## Losses

DOA, **AB 2782** Healthy California Fund,  
Richard Bloom (Santa Monica)

See page 7 for PWG Supporters

► The bill's health impact fee on sugary beverages would generate up to \$1.2 billion annually for community grants supporting healthy food access, as well as contracts to improve school food and numerous public health interventions. It would be hard to identify another bill proposed in the history of the California Legislature that would do more to bolster the health, wealth and resilience of underserved communities as well as the income of small farmers.

DOA, **SB 2593** Food Facilities: Private Homes,  
Cheryl Brown (San Bernardino)

Died too early to receive documented support

► The bill that would have enabled small-scale entrepreneurs to prepare food in their homes for direct sale to clients fully informed of the source. The loss impedes the development of a local food economy and home-based businesses.

**AB 2751** Securities: Qualifications: Exemptions,  
Cheryl Brown (San Bernardino)

PWG Support: CFL, FG, Humboldt FPC, OCFAC, ROC, SELC

► This bill would have made it easier for ordinary people to become investors in small local food and farm enterprises. Minor changes in investment laws could help small farms and food businesses create three times as many jobs as medium- and large-scale operations. *Killed in Assembly Appropriations.*

# FOOD CHAIN WORKER ADVANCEMENT

The United States is becoming a land of low wages, and nowhere is that more apparent than in the food and farming sector. In a study by the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics, food preparation workers rank lowest among paid workers in America with an average wage of \$8.70 per hour. Farmworkers rank seventh with an average of \$9.50 per hour. The California Legislature acted on this problem with two laws this year that will raise the minimum wage, and for the first time, provide overtime for farmworkers on par with all other industries.

## Wins

### **SB 3** Minimum Wage, Mark Leno (San Francisco)

PWG Support: CIPC, ROC

► This bill forged an elegant solution to a complex problem accommodating the concerns of many interests. It raised the minimum wage to \$15 per hour in steps between now and January 1, 2022. If a business has fewer than 26 full-time employees, the phase-in is delayed by one year. After 2023, increases will be pegged to the Consumer Price Index. The governor can slow increases during economic downturns. *Passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.*

### **AB 1066** Farmworker Overtime, Lorena Gonzalez (San Diego)

PWG Support: None

► Originally introduced as AB 2757 and killed on the Assembly floor, the resurrected bill phases in overtime pay for farmworkers. By 2022 they will be paid overtime after 8 hours in one day and/or 40 hours in a week, like all other hourly workers. As with SB 3, it allows the governor to suspend the scheduled phase-in due to an economic downturn. *Passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor.*

## Losses

### **AB 2715** Farmworker Energy Efficient Housing, Eduardo Garcia (Coachella Valley), Luis Alejo (Salinas), and Bill Dodd (Sacramento)

PWG Support: None

► The bill would have established the Agricultural Working Poor Energy Efficient Housing Program and appropriated \$50 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) to weatherize and make energy-efficient (including new appliances) the owner-occupied and rental units of agricultural workers. Passed in the Assembly, but killed by Senate Appropriations.

*"The paradox of the Central Valley as one of the world's richest farm economies and one of the areas in the nation with the highest poverty rates points a finger at agriculture. But perhaps the finger should be pointed at an economic system that sees labor as an expendable input in its quest for cheaper retail prices and greater profits. In the current system, the cheapest producer is often the one who prospers. This reality may not work for the human and biological systems that underlie food production."*

*Paul Muller, partner Full Belly Farm*

# CALIFORNIA FOOD AND AGRICULTURE POLICY CHAMPIONS

All transformative movements need policy champions to achieve structural change. Fortunately for the food movement, those champions are rising to the occasion. This is the first of what will become an annual award to policy champions who have set their sights on a sustainable and just future. In 2016 we are honoring the following four legislators: Senators Mark Leno (San Francisco) and Lois Wolk (Davis), both outgoing; and Assemblymembers Phil Ting (San Francisco) and Susan Eggman (Stockton). All four have authored and supported priorities of California's food movement. We thank them for their exemplary service and look forward to many years of continuing collaboration.

## *Farm and Ranch Economic Viability*

Assemblymember **Susan Eggman** comes from a family of beekeepers and understands the need to craft smart legislation that allows agricultural producers to thrive while meeting California's highest environmental and societal goals. She has worked to ensure good planning for agricultural lands, protection for pollinator habitats, and incentives for farmers and ranchers to increase donations to food banks.

Assemblymember Eggman has voted in support of 40 of 41 bills tracked by the Policy Work Group since 2013 that received Assembly floor votes.

Bills authored by Assemblymember Eggman and tracked since 2013:

**AB 2185 Bees: Foraging: State-Owned Lands**

**AB 515 Tax Breaks for Food Bank Donations**

**AB 1577 CalFood Program**

**AB 2324 Certified Farmers' Market Regulation Update**



Assemblymember **Susan Eggman**

## *Healthy Food Access*

More than any other member of the Assembly, **Phil Ting** has collaborated with the food movement to champion the goals of both urban and rural communities across a broad set of issue areas in both the legislative and budget processes. He created groundbreaking legislation that will make healthy food more accessible to those most in need while increasing income for small farmers and building public trust in farmers' markets. He fully understands the important nexus between entrepreneurship and food system innovation.

Assemblymember Ting has voted in support of all 41 bills tracked by the Policy Work Group since 2013 that received Assembly floor votes.

Bills authored by Assemblymember Ting and tracked since 2013:

**AB 551 Urban Agriculture Property Tax Incentives**

**AB 2385 SNAP Act**

**AB 1321 California Nutrition Incentives Act**



Assemblymember **Phil Ting**

## Ecological Agriculture

Senator **Lois Wolk** first aided the emerging food movement in 2008 as an Assemblymember by hosting a meeting with the Roots of Change team to discuss what would eventually become the California Ag Vision project. Attending that important gathering were then Secretary of Food and Agriculture AG Kawamura, current Secretary Karen Ross, California's first Food and Agriculture Secretary, Richard Rominger, and the current State Board of Food and Agriculture President, Craig McNamara. Ag Vision was the first time a broad array of food movement entities began to engage state government in a collaborative process. Senator Wolk has been a leader in environmental protection as well as in promoting farmers' markets and the California wine and olive oil industries. She was the primary author of legislation to position farmers and ranchers as critical players in the effort to both mitigate climate change and adapt to global warming.

Senator Wolk has voted in support of 41 of 43 bills tracked by the Policy Work Group since 2013 that received Senate floor votes.

Bills authored and co-authored by Senator Wolk and tracked since 2013:

**SB 367 Agricultural Lands Greenhouse Gases**

**AB 1321 California Nutrition Incentives Act (Principal co-author)**

**SB 1350 Healthy Soils**

**SB 1317 Conditional Use Permit: Groundwater Extraction**



Senator **Lois Wolk**

## Labor

In 2006, Senator **Mark Leno** became the first California representative to support the concept of nutrition incentives when as an Assemblymember he introduced the Healthy Food Purchase Pilot Act. That concept eventually reached full expression in 2015 with passage of the California Nutrition Incentives Act, authored by Phil Ting and principle-co-authored by Lois Wolk. Senator Leno has long worked to make it easier for Californians to receive CalFresh benefits, to reduce toxicity in the food system, and most recently to protect pollinators essential to California's agriculture. He has been on the front lines of initiatives to proactively address climate change. Senator Leno led the multi-year legislative campaign to increase the minimum wage, which will positively impact the lives of over one million of California's food chain workers.

Senator Leno has voted in support of all 43 bills tracked by the Policy Work Group since 2013 that received Senate floor votes.

Bills authored by Senator Leno and tracked since 2013:

**SB 935 Minimum Wage**

**SB 3 Minimum Wage**

**SB 1282 Pesticides, Neonicotinoids**



Senator **Mark Leno**

# RECORD OF VOTES – ASSEMBLY

		AB 1810	SB 1350	SB 904	SB 3	SB 1317	AB 1577	SB 1282	AB 2715	AB 2751	AB 1584	AB 1066	AB 1826	AB 2424	AB 2054	AB 2324
Katcho Achadjian	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Luis A. Alejo	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Travis Allen	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Joaquin Arambula	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Toni G. Atkins	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Catharine B. Baker	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Frank Bigelow	R	●	S	S	NVR		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Richard Bloom	D	●	S	S	●	P	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Susan Bonilla	D	●	P	P	●	U	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Rob Bonta	D	●	E	E	●	L	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
William P. Brough	R	●	N	N	●	L	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Cheryl R. Brown	D	●	D	D	●	E	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Autumn R. Burke	D	●	D	D	●		NVR		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Ian C. Calderon	D	●			●	B	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Nora Campos	D	●	B	B	●	Y	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Ling Ling Chang	R	●	Y	Y	●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Ed Chau	D	●			●	A	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Rocky J. Chávez	R	●	S	S	●	U	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
David Chiu	D	●	E	E	●	T	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Kansen Chu	D	●	N	N	●	H	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Ken Cooley	D	●	A	A	●	O	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Jim Cooper	D	●	T	T	●	R	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Matthew Dababneh	D	●	E	E	●	F	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Brian Dahle	R	●	A	A	●	R	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Tom Daly	D	●	P	P	●	O	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Bill Dodd	D	●	R	R	●	M	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Susan Talamantes Eggman	D	●	O	O	●	A	●		●		●	NVR	●	●	●	●
Jim Frazier	D	●	P	P	●	S	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Beth B. Gaines	R	●	R	R	●	S	●		●		NVR	●	NVR	NVR	●	●
James Gallagher	R	●	I	I	●	E	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Cristina Garcia	D	●	A	A	●	M	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Eduardo Garcia	D	●	T	T	●	B	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Mike Gatto	D	●	I	I	●	L	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Mike A. Gipson	D	●	O	O	●	Y	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Jimmy Gomez	D	●	N	N	●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Lorena S. Gonzalez	D	●	S	S	●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Richard S. Gordon	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Adam C. Gray	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Shannon L. Grove	R	●			NVR		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
David Hadley	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●

● Aye ● Nay NVR No Vote Recorded ● Seat Vacant



		AB 1810	SB 1350	SB 904	SB 3	SB 1317	AB 1577	SB 1282	AB 2715	AB 2751	AB 1584	AB 1066	AB 1826	AB 2424	AB 2054	AB 2324
Matthew Harper	R	●			NVR		●		NVR		●	●	●	●	●	●
Roger Hernández	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Chris R. Holden	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Jacqui Irwin	D	●			●		●		●		●	NVR	●	●	●	●
Brian W. Jones	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Reginald B. Jones-Sawyer, Sr.	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Young O. Kim	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Tom Lackey	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Marc Levine	D	●			●		●		●		●	NVR	●	●	●	●
Eric Linder	R	●			NVR		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Patty López	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Evan Low	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Brian Maienschein	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Devon J. Mathis	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Chad Mayes	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Kevin McCarty	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Jose Medina	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Melissa Melendez	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Kevin Mullin	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Adrin Nazarian	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Jay Obernolte	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Patrick O'Donnell	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Kristin Olsen	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Jim Patterson	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	NVR	●	●	●
Bill Quirk	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Anthony Rendon	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Sebastian Ridley-Thomas	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Freddie Rodriguez	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Rudy Salas, Jr.	D	●			NVR		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Miguel Santiago	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Marc Steinorth	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Mark Stone	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Tony Thurmond	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Phil Y. Ting	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Donald P. Wagner	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Marie Waldron	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Shirley N. Weber	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Scott Wilk	R	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Das Williams	D	●			●		●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●
Jim Wood	D	●			●		●		●		●	NVR	●	●	●	●



# RECORD OF VOTES – SENATE

		AB 1810	SB 1350	SB 904	SB 3	SB 1317	AB 1577	SB 1282	AB 2715	AB 2751	AB 1584	AB 1066	AB 1826	AB 2424	AB 2054	AB 2324
Benjamin Allen	D	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Joel Anderson	R	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Patricia C. Bates	R	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Jim Beall	D	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Tom Berryhill	R	●			NVR	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Marty Block	D	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Anthony Cannella	R	●	S	S	●	●	●	●	S	S	●	●	●	S	S	●
Kevin de León	D	●	U	U	●	●	●	●	U	U	●	●	●	U	U	●
Jean Fuller	R	●	P	P	●	●	●	●	P	P	●	●	●	P	P	●
Ted Gaines	R	●	E	E	●	●	●	●	E	E	●	●	●	E	E	●
Cathleen Galgiani	D	●	N	N	●	●	●	●	N	N	●	NVR	●	N	N	●
Steven M. Glazer	D	●	D	D	●	●	●	●	D	D	●	●	●	D	D	●
Isadore Hall, III	D	●	E	E	●	●	●	●	E	E	●	●	●	E	E	●
Loni Hancock	D	●	D	D	●	●	●	●	D	D	●	●	●	D	D	●
Ed Hernandez	D	●	B	B	●	●	●	NVR	B	B	●	●	●	B	B	●
Robert M. Hertzberg	D	●	Y	Y	●	●	●	●	Y	Y	●	●	●	Y	Y	●
Jerry Hill	D	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Ben Hueso	D	NVR	S	S	●	NVR	●	NVR	S	S	NVR	●	●	S	S	●
Bob Huff	R	●	E	E	●	●	●	●	E	E	●	●	●	E	E	●
Hannah-Beth Jackson	D	●	N	N	●	●	●	NVR	N	N	●	●	●	N	N	●
Ricardo Lara	D	●	A	A	●	●	●	NVR	A	A	●	●	●	A	A	●
Mark Leno	D	●	T	T	●	●	●	●	T	T	●	●	●	T	T	●
Connie M. Leyva	D	●	E	E	●	●	●	●	E	E	●	NVR	●	E	E	●
Carol Liu	D	●	A	A	●	●	●	●	A	A	●	●	●	A	A	●
Mike McGuire	D	●	P	P	●	●	●	●	P	P	●	NVR	●	P	P	●
Tony Mendoza	D	●	R	R	●	●	●	NVR	R	R	●	●	●	R	R	●
Holly J. Mitchell	D	●	O	O	●	●	●	●	O	O	●	●	●	O	O	●
Bill Monning	D	●	P	P	●	●	●	●	P	P	●	●	●	P	P	●
John M. W. Moorlach	R	●	R	R	●	●	●	●	R	R	●	●	●	R	R	●
Mike Morrell	R	●	I	I	●	●	●	●	I	I	●	●	●	I	I	●
Janet Nguyen	R	●	A	A	●	●	●	●	A	A	●	●	●	A	A	●
Jim Nielsen	R	●	T	T	●	●	●	●	T	T	●	●	●	T	T	●
Richard Pan	D	●	I	I	●	●	●	●	I	I	●	●	●	I	I	●
Fran Pavley	D	●	O	O	●	●	●	●	O	O	●	●	●	O	O	●
Richard D. Roth	D	●	N	N	●	●	●	●	N	N	●	●	●	N	N	●
Sharon Runner (Deceased)	R	NVR	S	S	NVR	NVR	NVR	NVR	S	S	NVR	NVR	NVR	S	S	NVR
Jeff Stone	R	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Andy Vidak	R	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Bob Wieckowski	D	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●
Lois Wolk	D	●			●	●	●	●			●	●	●			●

● Aye ● Nay NVR No Vote Recorded

## REPORT PARTNERS

### Roots of Change

Roots of Change drafts legislation and leads campaigns that unify broad-based coalitions working for a just and ecologically sustainable food system in the country's most productive agricultural state. We publish and distribute the annual California Food and Agriculture Legislation Tracker and its companion piece, the Legislator Scorecard. These and other tools are intended to promote and establish policies that make healthy food more affordable, enhance markets for farmers and safeguard the natural world. ROC created the California Food Policy Council in 2012, a platform for linking the state's food movement with policy makers. A program of the Public Health Institute, ROC provides strategic advice, financial and staff support for the CAFPC.

### California Food Policy Council

The California Food Policy Council is comprised of 27 local food policy councils from across the state. The CAFPC represents diverse food system stakeholders that develop and promote statewide policies and practices that produce healthy, safe, humane and abundant food in ways that protect our environment and ensure the prosperity of our workers, farms, and food businesses. The CAFPC provides guidance and assistance to decision-makers as they develop new policies, regulations, programs, funding, technical support and research priorities affecting food and agriculture in our state.

**Berkeley Food Policy Council**  
**Central Coast Healthy Food Access Committee**  
**Community Food Council for Del Norte and Adjacent Tribal Lands**  
**Eden Area Food Alliance**  
**Food Ag and Nutrition Network of Solano**  
**Food Policy Advisory Council Serving San Bernardino County**  
**Growing Local (Shasta)**  
**Humboldt Food Policy Council**  
**Kern Food Policy Council**  
**Long Beach Fresh**  
**Los Angeles Food Policy Council**  
**Marin Food Policy Council**  
**Mendocino County Food Policy Council**  
**Nevada County Food Policy Council**  
**North County Food Policy Council (San Diego)**  
**Oakland Food Policy Council**  
**Orange County Food Access Coalition**  
**Plumas-Sierra Community Food Council**  
**Richmond Food Policy Council**  
**Riverside Food Systems Alliance**  
**Sacramento Food Policy Council**  
**San Francisco Urban Agriculture Alliance**  
**San Diego Food Systems Alliance**  
**San Luis Obispo County Food System Coalition**  
**San Mateo Food System Alliance**  
**Tehama County Community Food Alliance**  
**Yolo Ag and Food Alliance**



# FOOD AND AGRICULTURE LEGISLATION TRACKER

## POLICY WORK GROUP

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<b>Jen Dalton</b>	Mendocino County Food Policy Council
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<b>Rebecca Hoggarth</b>	Food Advisory Council Serving San Bernardino County
<b>Rebecca Spector</b>	Center for Food Safety
<b>Reyna Yagi</b>	Oakland FPC & Acta Non Verba
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<b>Peter Ruddock</b>	San Mateo Food System Alliance & Slow Money South Bay
<b>Doris Meier</b>	Project Coordinator
<b>Watershed Media</b>	Design

**CALIFORNIA FOOD AND FARMING INDEX** ● Percentage of Californians diagnosed with diabetes: 9% ● Percentage of Californians estimated to be prediabetic: 46% ● Current annual cost of diabetes to California due to lost productivity and treatment: \$37 billion ● Primary source of added sugar consumed by Americans: sugar-sweetened beverages ● California's rank in list of US agricultural states measured by revenue: 1 ● Number one agricultural county in the nation: Tulare ● California county with the most public water systems that fail to meet federal drinking water standards: Tulare ● Farm gate revenue of California agriculture in 2015: \$47 billion ● Total number of farms and ranches in California: 76,400 ● Average size of an agricultural operation in California: 334 acres, 25% smaller than average farm or ranch in the U.S. ● Average value of agricultural land per acre in California: \$7,000 ● Average value of agricultural land per acre in the nation: \$ 3,010 ● Percentage of the nation's vegetables produced in California: approximately 33% ● Percentage of the nation's fruit and nuts produced in California: approximately 66% ● Percentage of California's production exported to other nations: 40% ● The "multiplier effect" of additional dollars generated by \$1 in direct sales from farms or ranches: \$1.87 ● The value of California's organic food sector: \$2.2 billion, generated by 2,805 farms ● Percentage of California farms receiving a USDA subsidy: 2.3% ● Percentage of CA Department of Food and Agriculture's budget provided by California's General Fund: 15% ● Percentage of CA Department of Food and Agriculture's budget provided by Federal Government and fees from farmers and ranchers: 85% ● Amount that the beverage and retail industry groups and conventional agriculture together contributed to California legislators in the current election cycle: \$1.3 million ● Amount that advocates for a healthy and sustainable food system contributed to legislators in the current election cycle: less than \$5,000 ●



**Roots of Change**  
[www.rootsofchange.org](http://www.rootsofchange.org)