

PULSE

OF THE FOOD MOVEMENT

Thanksgiving: A Wise Response for Troubled Times

Dear friends & allies,

Thanksgiving is a profound holiday reflecting an American wisdom that has served us well. We rightly think of it as a day to feel gratitude for our blessings. We celebrate the abundance of nature and our social bonds by sharing a great annual feast. It is a wonderful tradition, my personal favorite. Yet, most of us are unaware that this special holiday emerged and evolved amidst our nation's most troubled times.



[Read Blog](#)

Important Facts from the 2016 Food and Farming Index

The Index, a component of the annual Legislation Tracker, reveals the magnitude of poverty in our modern California economy. The wealth gap is unconscionable in our view. Significant reform of tax, labor, education and food policy are required to provide a new structure to evolve our society away from such a skewed income distribution. This Thanksgiving, please remember those who live with fewer opportunities, less healthy food and communities. We invite you to recommit to participating in creation of a better, more resilient society.



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:

Average annual household income of a farmworker's family:

\$18,750

\$19,790

CALIFORNIA FOOD AND FARMING INDEX



Join us on January 16, 2018 for the release of the 2017 Index, Legislation Tracker & Legislators Scorecard!

We'll also be announcing two Food and Agriculture Policy Champions who are doing their part to make California healthy and resilient.

RSVP for the Legislative Tracker Release Party in Sacramento, January 16, 2018.



DON'T MISS IT: California Soils Week, Follow It on ROC Social Media

December 4th through 7th, California will be celebrating healthy soils, the basis for all the abundance that we enjoy on our Thanksgiving tables. Soil is living and must be fed and cared for like anything we need and love. ROC along with the California departments of Food and Agriculture and Natural Resources and several nonprofit allies, including [CalCAN](#) and [CAFF](#), will be participating in events to educate legislators and the media on the need to invest more attention and

resources in the health of our state's soils. ROC will be posting from events all week from Sacramento and Los Angeles. We'll be visiting the Governor's office, legislators, farms, and community gardens to share with you all the good news. Watch for our special email next week with a detailed schedule and watch for #CASoilsWeek on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook.

Ongoing Campaigns

Annual Roots of Change Action Fund Drive!

Hear Ye Hear Ye: We need your support to make the changes we all want in our food system! **Donors of \$100 or more** will receive a beautiful Roots of Change Tee with the slogan: **Vote for your food!**

IMPORTANT: On the PayPal payment page, see the field below your \$100 or more amount that says "Write a Note (optional)". In that field, please stipulate Male or Female cut and size (XL, L, M, S).

Thank you!



[Donate Here](#)

Stop California Politicians from Sucking Up to Big Soda

Stop BIG Soda from buying votes that harm our kids! [Sign our petition](#), make a call or send an email. We can stop California Legislators and their caucuses from sucking up to Big Soda by accepting campaign contributions. Your actions will support ROC as we challenge key legislators. Only a few are blocking action to directly improve the lives and communities of our underserved families.



ACTION ALERT: Sign ROC's Petition and Call Your Legislator to Support a Statewide Tax on Sugary Beverages

Thank you for your support. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday with your family & friends!

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