**SAMPLE SUPPORT LETTER AB 614 (Eggman) – Put on Letterhead**

**Submit via portal:** **leg.unit@gov.ca.gov**

**Send to:** Lilliana.udang@asm.ca.gov and andrew@cafoodbanks.org

DATE

The Honorable Gavin Newsom

Governor, State of California

State Capitol Building

Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 614 (Eggman) – Expand Food Bank Donation Tax Credit – Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of [organization name], I write to express our strong support for Assembly Bill 614, which would expand the Farm to Food Bank Tax Credit from only fresh produce, to other foods grown or produced in California such as grains, proteins and dairy. California is the leading agricultural producer in America, yet too many Californians still suffer from hunger and poor nutrition. Despite our state’s great wealth, 1 in 8 Californians unfortunately faces hunger.

The Farm to Food Bank Tax Credit has proven to be effective and fiscally responsible in driving agricultural donations to food banks who feed those in need. It is limited in scope, however, which means there is food in our system that is not donated and in some cases wasted and contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. The existing credit authorizes agricultural growers to receive a state tax credit of 15% of the wholesale value of their surplus produce that is donated.

[Optional paragraph: what foods would this help get donated to your food bank? E.g. eggs, milk, or other non-produce items.]

In addition to the challenges in maximizing donations of California-grown products, lines at our food pantries continue to be impacted by federal, state, and local pressures: the current climate of fear limiting the reach of CalFresh, historic disasters, unrelenting costs of housing that continue to soar, and increased federal pressures from the partial government shutdown.

The current Farm to Food Bank Tax Credit is working, and the key remaining policy issue is simply to expand it to a broader range of California foods necessary to support a healthy population. Expanding the Farm to Food Bank Tax Credit will help to ensure that low-income Californians have access to a complete grocery bag including not just fresh produce but also grains, protein, and dairy, necessary for a well-rounded diet. For the reasons outlined in this letter, [organization name] is in strong support of AB 614.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]