



Community Voices & Desires Must Be Heard to Win

Greetings!

We live in a time when key policy changes could transform our food culture and agriculture economy while solving multiple serious challenges. There are millions of people who need access to healthier food and every single community must become much more resilient in order to cope with the unfolding climate crisis. This takes public and private investment. The best option for generating the public funds to increase healthy food access and more resilient local food production is a 2-cent per ounce tax on harmful sugary beverages. But the money from Big Soda has blunted our efforts for over half a decade. Just see this year's killed bill list below.

Big Soda Killed All These Sugar-Sweetened Beverages Bills in 2019

AB 138 (Bloom) - California
Community Health Fund (tax)

AB 764 (Bonta) - Sugar-sweetened
beverages (limiting advertising)

AB 765 (Wicks) - Healthy Checkout
Aisles for Healthy Families Act

AB 766 (Chiu) - Unsealed beverage
container portion cap

SB 347 (Monning) - Sugar-
sweetened beverages: safety warnings



Flipping the Table Guest: Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza

We agree with today's Flipping the Table guest, [Dr. D'Artagnan Scorza](#), leader of the [Social Justice Learning Institute](#) and UCLA professor. He says we are losing because the previous campaigns have been too top down. The voices and desires of people in those communities most impacted are not being heard by legislators. This allows elected officials to take money and direction from the soda industry without



consequences. Dr. Scorza sees a path forward to victory, but it requires a new approach. We will do all we can to support his team and our other allies, such as [The Praxis Project](#), building the next campaign based on community organizing. Hear Dr. Scorza share his vision with host Michael Dimock by hitting one of the podcast platform links below.



Dueling Podcasters

Don't miss last week's conversation between [Rodger Wasson](#), host of the [Farm to Table Talk](#) podcast, former head of the Almond Board of California and other commodity-based industry associations.

He and Michael discuss their alternate journeys into agriculture and food system work as well as their contrasting views of [a new video](#) put out by the US Farmers and Ranchers Alliance. The video positions agriculture as solution to the climate crisis.



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Policy Update

As of today, and following the victories related to the Healthy Soils Program and



the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Act, only one of our priority bills remains alive. It has been a tough year for healthy and sustainable food policy goals.

**[AB 842](#) Hunger-Free Preschool.
Monique Lemon (Santa Barbara) and
Susan Eggman (Stockton)**

Ensures that all low-income, public preK students have access to a free- or reduced-price meals and all childcare providers utilizing the Child Care Food

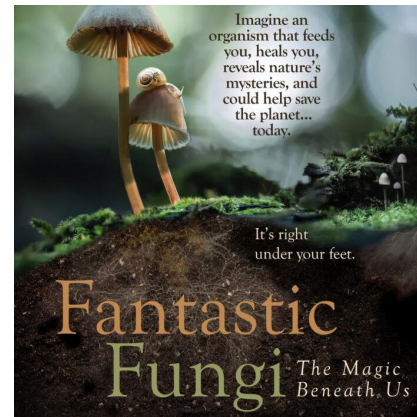
Program receive supplemental state funding.

On SENATE Floor. Must pass by Friday to reach the Governor for his consideration and signature within 30 days.

Film Screening: "Fantastic Fungi"

Last but not least, don't miss this film at the historic Castro Theater if you live in the San Francisco Bay Area!

[Fantastic Fungi](#), directed by **Louie Schwartzberg**, is a consciousness-shifting film that takes us on an immersive journey through time and scale into the magical earth beneath our feet, an underground network that can heal and save our planet. Through the eyes of renowned scientists and mycologists like **Paul Stamets**, best-selling authors **Michael Pollan**, **Eugenia Bone**, **Andrew Weil**, and others, we become aware of the beauty, intelligence and solutions the fungi kingdom offer us in response to some of our most pressing medical, therapeutic, and environmental challenges.



Thank you for your interest and your support!

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