

April 26, 2023

The Honorable Chris Holden  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 8220  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 1178 (Rivas), Summer Caregiver Meals – SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Holden:

On behalf of San Diego Hunger Coalition, I am writing in **SUPPORT of Assembly Bill 1178 (Rivas), Summer Caregiver Meals**. AB 1178 will make sure that caregivers can sit down and have a meal with their children at summer meal sites by requiring the state to fund a caregiver meal option.

Currently, the Summer Food Service Program mandates that only children and teens ages 18 and younger are eligible to receive free, reimbursable meals. But if children of a food insecure household are hungry, it is likely that the parents or caregivers are also facing hunger. In the summer, households experience an increase in grocery spending. Parents and caregivers from food insecure households who depend on free school meals for their children are more than likely unable to financially compensate for the lack of meals when their children are home.

AB 1178 will combat food insecurity, promote healthy child development, and provide families with opportunities to bond over a warm meal, by establishing a process for state reimbursement for federal summer meal program operators to provide meals to parents and caregivers of children in the summer meal program.

AB 1178 will fight hunger during the summer so parents/caregivers and children can eat together during the summer meal program. It is for these reasons, San Diego Hunger Coalition is pleased to **SUPPORT** AB 1178.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Anahid Brakke".

Anahid Brakke  
President & CEO

