



Los Angeles Office  
205 S. Broadway, Suite 205  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

March 28, 2017

Honorable Shirley Weber  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0079  
Fax: (916) 319-2179

**RE: Support AB 214 (Weber) – College Student Hunger**

Dear Assemblymember Weber:

The California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) supports Assembly Bill 214 (Weber) which builds upon previous legislation to address the growing crisis of hunger on California's college campuses.

According to California State University (CSU), 24% of CSU students experience hunger and 12% experience homelessness. In a survey recently conducted by the UC Regents, it was found that nearly one in five University of California students indicated that they had "very low" food security. Furthermore, the Wisconsin HOPE Lab, a research organization aimed at improving equity in higher education, reported that half of all community college students are struggling with housing and/or food insecurity.

AB 214 builds upon two previous bills, Assembly Bill 1747 (Weber, 2016) and AB 1930 (Skinner, 2014), that addressed food insecurity for low-income students on California's college campuses. We commend the work that the California Department of Social Service workgroup on student hunger has already completed over the last year, and we hope AB 214 would expand upon that success as we work towards effective solutions to address college student hunger.

California should not let something like food insecurity undermine a student's effort to progress and gain a postsecondary education. For this reason, CFPA supports AB 214.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anna Colby". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Anna Colby, MS, MPP

CC: Scott Matsumoto, Office of Assemblymember Shirley Weber, California State Assembly (Author)  
Jessica Bartholow, Western Center on Law and Poverty (Co-Sponsor)

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CFPA is a statewide policy and advocacy organization dedicated to improving the health and well being of low income Californians by increasing their access to nutritious, affordable food.