

## Call the Conferees Today and Ask Them to Support *ECE Nutrition Investments* | 3 Simple Steps |

**Step 1: Prepare your short statement.** Use the script below or write up your own using your personal narrative about why **ECE Nutrition Investments** are important to you.

“Hi, my name is **(name)** and I live in **(city)**, California. I’m calling to urge your support of a state investment in early childhood education nutrition. Specifically, I am requesting that the final budget include the Assembly’s child care nutrition budget proposal – item 6110 on page 8 of the K-12 Conference Committee agenda – which would reinstate a \$0.16 per meal reimbursement for providers participating in the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program. Ensuring that our youngest children have access to healthy meals throughout their day is critically important. This proposed investment would support the provision of over 73 million nutritious meals each year; targeting low-income children in high quality child care settings.

Choose one of the following or add your own:

- ➔ Healthy eating habits develop in the first 5 years of life.
- ➔ Good nutrition in early childhood is linked to improved cognitive ability.
- ➔ Research shows CACFP is associated with better nutrition *and* better overall quality of care.
- ➔ CACFP serves the most vulnerable children, with more than 80% of participants qualifying for free or reduced-priced meals.
- ➔ A small investment in nutrition has the power to support early childhood educators, families, and young children.
- ➔ A state investment in early childhood nutrition increases the effectiveness of the state’s existing commitment to K-12 nutrition.
- ➔ Investing in early childhood nutrition is a preventive health strategy that can decrease future spending on diet-related diseases.

Thank you for your time.

**Step 2: Use this document to find the conferees’ contact information.** [PDF](#)

Call the conferees! A live person should answer the phone and you can share your prepared message with them.

**Step 3: Ask 5 friends to make calls too and tweet about your action** ([@CAFoodPolicy](#))

**Questions?** Contact [Elyse Homel Vitale](#) at 510.433.1122 ext. 206

