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Assemblymember Monning Issues a Statement on Mobile Food Vending Bill

(Sacramento, CA)—Today, Assemblymember Bill Monning (D-Carmel) announced that Assembly Bill (AB) 1678, which would address mobile food vending near public schools, will not proceed further this year.

Assemblymember Monning said, “Mobile food vending that targets students near school campuses remains a pressing issue. The challenge before us is working with a diverse group of stakeholders to establish a shared understanding about the adverse impacts of these practices and the necessity of a statewide legislative solution.

I am concerned that in communities across our state, mobile food vendors congregate just outside of elementary, middle, and high schools to direct sales at students before, during, and after the school day. I have seen this business practice first hand and will continue to prioritize children’s health over profit. In that vein, I am working with the sponsors of AB 1678, California Food Policy Advocates, and supporters of the bill, like the California State PTA, to address issues impacting the health of our students.

For years, Californians have worked to remove sodas and unhealthful snacks from school grounds. Vendors are bringing these very items back to the school gate using the mobility of ice cream trucks, pushcarts, and other portable units. This undermines the statewide nutrition improvements that we have established.

As Chair of the Assembly Health Committee, I am alarmed that California’s children face unprecedented levels of obesity and overweight, making them susceptible to Type 2 diabetes, heart disease, organ failure, stroke, and other preventable diseases. I remain committed to crafting legislation that promotes the life-long health of our children and the long-term success of our state.”

Assemblymember Monning was first elected to represent the 27th Assembly District in 2008 and re-elected in 2010. The 27th Assembly District includes portions of Monterey, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties. Assemblymember Monning was a professor at the Monterey College of Law and a Professor of International Negotiation and Conflict Resolution at the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

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