



February 22, 2019

Assemblymember Phil Ting
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
State Capitol, Room 6026
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assemblymember Kevin McCarty
Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2
State Capitol, Room 2136
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: \$3 Million appropriation to fund Breakfast after the Bell Grants for three years

Dear Assemblymembers Ting and McCarty:

On behalf of No Kid Hungry and California Food Policy Advocates, we respectfully request your approval of \$3 million appropriation to fund Breakfast after the Bell grants for three years.

The No Kid Hungry campaign connects kids in need with nutritious food, and teaches their families how to cook healthy, affordable meals. The campaign also engages the public to make ending child hunger a national priority. No Kid Hungry California works to end child hunger by connecting kids to effective nutrition programs, like school breakfast and summer meals. California Food Policy Advocates 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.

Research shows that school breakfast supports academic achievement, attendance at school, and physical and emotional health. Yet two million of our state's most vulnerable students miss out on the benefits of school breakfast. Providing breakfast after the start of the school day overcomes barriers for students to access school breakfast.

Therefore, we respectfully request an augmentation of \$3 million for three years to extend California's successful Breakfast After the Bell Expansion grants. This proposal would revive an augmentation approved in the 2016-17 state budget that expired at the end of June 2018. In its first year, the 2016-17 augmentation allowed the CDE to award over \$1.2 million in funding that went to 160 school sites, which enroll over 115,600 students, to implement breakfast after the bell programs. The vast majority of the funds went to high-poverty schools. Thanks to the Breakfast After the Bell expansion grants, those students gained improved access to a nutritious school breakfast to support their learning. The 2017 Breakfast After the Bell Expansion grant awardees used these funds to establish a variety of effective school breakfast models.

The grants allow schools to make local decisions that best serve their community's schools and students. These grants supported 56 schools implementing breakfast in the classroom; 50 schools implementing versions of Grab n' Go breakfast; 39 schools implementing Second Chance Breakfast; and 15 schools that focused on a combination of these options.

Schools continue to need support to start-up and expand breakfast programs to reach children in need. These breakfast after the bell programs are financially self-sustaining once they are up and running, thanks to the increased federal reimbursement revenue that results with optimal access. It is time we



get back on track and increase funding for these breakfast after the bell grants so that we can regain the momentum and continue this successful work.

Strategically investing in breakfast after the bell will help California advance equity by ensuring low-income students have the nutrition they need to succeed in school and life. No Kid Hungry California and CFPA look forward to working with the Legislature and the Administration to extend the successful Breakfast After the Bell Expansion grants and ensure that more California children see the academic and health benefits of school breakfast.

We appreciate your consideration of this very important request. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracey Patterson".

Tracey Patterson
Director of Legislation
California Food Policy Advocates

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kathy A Saile".

Kathy Saile
Director
No Kid Hungry California

CC: Members, Assembly Committee on Budget



February 27, 2019

Senator Holly Mitchell, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
State Capitol, Room 5019
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senator Richard Roth, Chair
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 1
State Capitol, Room 2080
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: \$3 Million appropriation to fund Breakfast after the Bell Grants for Three Years

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Tracey Patterson
Director of Legislation
California Food Policy Advocates

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Kathy Saile
Director
No Kid Hungry California

CC: Members, Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review