

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

March 20, 2017

Honorable Scott D. Wiener Chair, Senate Human Services Committee 1020 N Street, Room 521 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Support SB 360 (Skinner) – CalWORKs/CalFresh Overpayment Prevention Act of 2017

Dear Chairperson Wiener:

California Food Policy Advocates (CFPA) supports Senate Bill 360 (Skinner), which would prevent counties from prosecuting CalWorks/CalFresh clients for overpayments if the potential for overpayment was known to the County Welfare Department and proper and timely notice of the overpayment was not provided to the client household.

CFPA is a statewide, nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health and well-being of low-income Californians by increasing their access to nutritious, affordable food. Throughout our more than 20 years of experience, we have worked to achieve a healthy and food secure California. SB 360 would help reduce hunger among Californians receiving CalFresh nutrition assistance by ensuring that if a county fails to process an overissuance report, those overissuances could not be used in a prosecution of the CalFresh client. The county would still be able to collect any overissuance.

No one should be prosecuted for an overissuance of nutrition benefits for any month that the county knew or should have known about the change in the client's profile that could result in an overissuance, and did not provide that client adequate and timely notice.

For these reasons, CFPA supports SB 360 and respectfully requests your "Aye" vote.

Sincerely,

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Jared Call, Managing Nutrition Policy Advocate

CC: Mariah Watson, Office of Nancy Skinner, California State Senate (Author)

Kevin Aslanian, CCWRO (Sponsor)