

## September 16, 2022 Capitol Advisors' Update

With the 2022 legislative session concluded, the Governor now has until September 30, 2022 to act on any legislation still on his desk. CSNA is closely watching several bills that made it to the Governor's desk and which could be of interest to CSNA members. Below you will find the major bills CSNA is currently tracking and their current status.

### COVID-19 Information

CDE's guidance on "School and Child and Adult Day Care Meals," which can be found [here](#), continues to be regularly updated as additional resources and information become available. This webpage now also includes links to recordings of the previous School Nutrition Town Halls, as well as recordings of CDE's previous Universal Meals Listening Sessions, through August 2022 and February 2022, respectively.

CDE will also be holding another school nutrition town hall on **Tuesday, September 27 at 2 pm**, to continue the discussion, policy guidance, and sharing of best practices for operating School Nutrition Programs and planning quality services during School Year 2022-23. The town hall is free to attend and those interested can register in advance for the webinar at: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_oZYOOqaRPqZ2-Q1qLXA2A](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_oZYOOqaRPqZ2-Q1qLXA2A).

### Bills of Interest

[AB 558 \(Nazarian\) School meals: Child Nutrition Act of 2022.](#)

**Status: AB 558 passed out of the Assembly on August 30, 2022 on a 66-0 vote. The measure is now on the Governor's desk.**

**Summary:** This bill would require CDE to develop, and to post on its website by July 1, 2023, guidance for local educational agencies (LEAs) participating in the federal School Breakfast Program that maintain kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 6, inclusive, on how to serve eligible nonschoolaged children breakfast or a morning snack at an LEA schoolsite. The bill would require a LEA that chooses to implement the department's guidance to submit to the department certain information relating to serving breakfast and morning snacks to nonschoolaged children. The bill would also establish the California School Plant-Based and Restricted Diet Program, which would authorize an LEA to apply for funding, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for reimbursement of up to \$0.20 per meal for meals that includes a plate-based, restricted diet, or vegetarian food option, or up to \$0.10 per meal for meals that include a plant-based milk option, or both.

[AB 778 \(Garcia\) Institutional purchasers: purchase of California-grown agricultural products.](#)

**Status: : AB 778 passed out of the Assembly on August 31, 2022 on a 80-0 vote. The measure is now on the Governor's desk.**

**Summary:** This bill would require all LEAs that solicit bids for the purchase of an agricultural food product to accept a bid or price for an agricultural food product when it is grown in California before accepting a bid or price for a domestic agricultural food product that is grown outside the state, when (1) the bid or price of the California-grown agricultural food product does not exceed the lowest bid or price for a domestic agricultural food product produced

outside the state and (2) the quality of the California-grown agricultural food product is comparable to the domestic agricultural food product produced outside the state.

[AJR 8 \(Rivas, Luz\) School meals: federal National School Lunch Program.](#)

**Status: The AJR 8 made it to the Senate but was not acted on. The measure is now dead.**

Summary: This resolution would urge the federal government to provide school lunches free of charge to all elementary, middle school, and high school students in the United States.

[SB 364 \(Skinner\) Pupil meals: End Child Hunger Act of 2021.](#)

**Status: SB 364 was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 11, 2022. The measure is now dead.**

Summary: The bill would establish a noncompetitive grant program to provide LEAs with funding to purchase CA-Grown products as well as establish the Better Out of School Time (BOOST) Nutrition EBT Program to provide EBT benefits to eligible students during school breaks, or a campus closure caused by state of emergency declared by the Governor, that lasts 5 or more schooldays. The bill would also authorize school district and county superintendents to establish a website to provide access to an online data collection form that can be used for purposes of collecting information necessary for the local control funding formula and the Community Eligibility Provision.

[SB 490 \(Caballero\) The Buy American Food Act: public institutions: purchase of nondomestic agricultural food products.](#)

**Status: SB 490 passed out of Senate on August 31, 2022 on a 39-1 vote. The measure is now on the Governor's desk.**  
**CSNA Position: Oppose; veto requested**

Summary: This bill would require all California state-owned or state-run education institutions that receive federal meal reimbursement, including public universities and colleges and LEAs, that purchase agricultural products to only purchase an agricultural product grown, packed, or processed in the United States unless the nondomestic product is more than 25% cheaper than the domestic product or the quality of the domestic agricultural food product is inferior to the quality of the nondomestic product. The bill would exempt an LEA with annual federal meal reimbursement funding of less than \$1,000,000.

[SB 1255 \(Portantino\) Single-use products waste reduction: Dishwasher Grant Program for Waste Reduction in K-12 Schools and Community Colleges](#)

**Status: SB 1255 passed out of the Senate on August 30, 2022 on a 38-0 vote. The measure is now on the Governor's desk.**

Summary: Would establish the Dishwasher Grant Program for Waste Reduction in K–12 Schools and Community Colleges to be administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery to provide grants to school districts, charter schools, and community college districts for the purchase and installation of commercial dishwashers at the schoolsites and campuses. The bill would require the department to award grants of up to \$40,000 per kitchen of a school or campus of an applicant district. The bill would make the implementation of these provisions contingent on an appropriation being made for its purposes by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act or another statute.

SB 1481 (Becker) Preschools, child daycare facilities, and Trustline Providers: meals.

**Status: SB 1481 was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on August 11, 2022. The measure is now dead.**

Summary: This bill would, subject to an appropriation for these purposes, require the State Department of Social Services to provide funding for (1) a supplemental state meal reimbursement for preschool facilities, child daycare facilities, and Trustline providers for up to 2 daily meals per child served through the CACFP at a rate equivalent to the state meal reimbursement for local educational agencies; (2) reimbursement of up to 2 daily meals per child served through the CACFP at a specified rate in order to establish a free meal program for all children receiving care from those facilities and providers; and (3) grants to those facilities and providers, and sponsors of the CACFP, to encourage their participation in and expansion of the CACFP. This bill would also increase the reimbursement rate for meals served in family daycare homes to 100 percent of the meals served.

SCR 81 (Rubio, Susan) School Breakfast Week.

**Status: SCR 81 was chaptered on April 4, 2022.**

Status: This measure would proclaim March 7, 2022, to March 11, 2022, inclusive, as School Breakfast Week and would recognize the importance of school nutrition programs and school nutrition staff in addressing the needs of the state's pupils. *Chapter 32, Statutes of 2022.*