

Dear Legislators—

I am writing in support of the SF 3528 Farm to School Program Requirements to include additional outreach for child care facilities.

Over the past several years, the programs that support our child-centered, food program reimbursement have taken several financial hits. This definitely includes Rule 2, Family-based child care. Although the State has stepped forward through the k-12 with free meals through schools, our child care facilities remain vulnerable. This all comes at a time that the cost of food continues to skyrocket!

A Farm to School program that includes ALL child care facilities (the environment where very young children learn) is an optimal opportunity for children to access local, nutritious foods. For our youngest learners, child care may be the one place the children have access to fresh, nutritious food. This also comes at a time when brain development is happening at the greatest rate. All children need access to this program!



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