



April 14, 2021

The Honorable Anthony Portantino
Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 609 (Hurtado) – SUPPORT

Dear Chairman Portantino:

On behalf of the California Council for Adult Education (CCAE) and California Adult Education Administrators Association (CAEAA), we are pleased to support SB 609 (Hurtado) related to CalFresh.

SB 609 would require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), to the extent permitted by federal law, to include adult education and career technical education programs in the list of programs deemed to meet the student exemptions for purpose of eligibility for CalFresh benefits.

SB 609 recognizes the importance of adult education by requiring the state, as permitted by federal law, to designate enrollment in adult education programs as meeting student exemption from SNAP work requirements. Adult education is an important system providing key programming in basic skills, short-term career training and more for some of our most marginalized populations. Including adult education programs will provide important pathways for these students and their families to access critically needed supports.

For these reasons, we urge your **AYE** vote to move the bill to the Senate Floor when it is before you for consideration. If you have any questions regarding our position, please contact Dawn Koepke with McHugh Koepke & Associates at dkoopke@mchughgr.com or (916) 606-5309. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kathleen Porter", written over a horizontal line.

Kathleen Porter
President
CCAE

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Werner", written over a horizontal line.

John Werner
President
CAEAA

Cc: The Honorable Melissa Hurtado, Author
Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Robert Ingenito, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee
Joe Shinstock, Fiscal Director, Senate Republican Office of Policy