STATE CAPITOL P.O. BOX 942849 SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0115



September 29, 2022

Mr. Charles Tobin, Regional Program Director Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Western Regional Office Food and Nutrition Service 90 Seventh Street, Suite 10-100 San Francisco, CA 94103

Re: Support for a request to extend P-EBT 2.0 Expungement Deadline

To Mr. Charles Tobin:

I am writing in support of the San Diego Hunger Coalition's request to reset the Pandemic-Electronic Benefit Transfer (P-EBT) 2.0 expungement deadline for 1-year for inactivated P-EBT 2.0 cards in California.

Currently, P-EBT 2.0 cards in California are being expunged if they have not been activated (unpinned) within one year of the card being mailed to the recipient. Most unpinned cards are expected to be expunged by December 2022. The latest data from the September 7, 2022, P-EBT Stakeholder Meeting hosted by the California Department of Social Services shows that there are still an estimated 546,000 California children with unpinned 2.0 cards, meaning the state of California and its families are missing out on over \$200 million in P-EBT benefits. In San Diego County alone, there is an estimated 32,500 children and their families without additional food assistance they are entitled to. Many of California's neediest families were forced to move due to the pandemic, and their benefit cards along with any P-EBT communications have been sent to old or incorrect addresses.

Extending the deadline for benefit expungement allows an opportunity to rectify this situation. Pandemic-EBT has been a vital line of support for our families throughout the pandemic. I urge you to support the San Diego Hunger Coalition's request as outlined on their September 20, 2022, letter.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER M. WARD Assemblymember, 78th District

2 WS

Brian Waienschein

TASHA BOERNER HORVATH Assemblymember, 76th District

John Boener Januar

BRIAN MAIENSCHEIN Assemblymember, 77th District AKILAH WEBER, M.D. Assemblymember, 79th District

DAVID A. ALVAREZ Assemblymember, 80th District

Cc: Congressman Mike Levin, U.S. Representative for CA-49
Congressman Darrell Issa, U.S. Representative for CA-50
Congressman Juan Vargas, U.S. Representative for CA-51
Congressman Scott Peters, U.S. Representative for CA-52
Congresswoman Sara Jacobs, U.S. Representative for CA-53
Deputy Under Secretary Stacy Dean, United States Department of Agriculture