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## **RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT WORKING FAMILIES HUNGER ACT (SB 672)**

Whereas, the Working Families Hunger Act (SB 672, Leno) provides that the State Department of Social Services maximize eligibility for, and enrollment in, CalFresh among California's working families by encouraging the state to adopt federal options and by requiring the County and Administering Agencies to use existing employment databases to assist and simplify the eligibility process for CalFresh applicants and reduce the burden for CalFresh applicants reporting cash earnings or childcare expenses; and

Whereas, according to the Public Policy Institute of California, the majority (63.4%) of poor families in California are working families; and

Whereas, for these families, work supports programs like CalFresh can help prevent the indignity of hunger when a paycheck falls short in meeting basic needs; and

Whereas, though an overwhelming majority of CalFresh recipients who can work do, many low-income California workers miss out on this food help because most families who work at jobs with low-wages do not get paid days off to attend to the paperwork required to verify income or deductions for the program; and

Whereas, Federal law makers, concerned about the lasting impact of childhood hunger on working families with low-wages, addressed this by adding flexibility to the federal rules governing the childcare deductions and gross income requirements in the 2008 Farm Bill; and

Whereas, low-income workers in California face more stringent and dated income requirements and reporting and verification requirements than many other states; and

Whereas, life for low-wage workers is difficult and few have paid time off or reliable transportation, making getting to the County Human Services Office to submit paperwork a struggle; and

Whereas, for this reason, many low-income workers go without CalFresh benefits they are eligible to receive and that could help them to stave off hunger for their family; and

Whereas, while policy makers should prioritize improving living wage employment opportunities for California's working families in an economy still struggling to recover from the economic downturn, they should also make sure that these families and their children do not suffer long-lasting effects of hunger due to overly burdensome paperwork requirements in our state's most important nutrition program,

Therefore be it Resolved, the San Francisco Labor Council will send a letter to the Senator Mark Leno endorsing SB 672, on condition that the California Labor Federation endorses SB 672, and will recommend to the California Labor Federation to endorse SB 672; and

Be it Finally Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council will send this resolution to the California Labor Federation, South Bay, Monterey Bay, Alameda, San Mateo, Contra Costa and North Bay Central Labor Councils for their concurrence and action.

Submitted by David Williams, SEIU 1021, and adopted by the San Francisco Labor Council on May 13, 2013.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Paulson", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Tim Paulson  
Executive Director

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