

The Honorable Melissa Hurtado, Chair, Senate Agriculture Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 583  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 408 (The Climate Resilient Farms, Sustainable Healthy Food Access, and Farmworker Protection Bond Act of 2024) - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Hurtado:

The undersigned organizations write to express support for AB 408 (Wilson), which will deliver critical resources to California's food and agricultural system. As the climate crisis intensifies we are seeing the vulnerabilities in this system as producers, farmworkers, and Californians facing food insecurity face unprecedented wildfires, catastrophic flood events, an ongoing risk of drought, and other climate impacts. Similarly, the COVID-19 pandemic also illustrated the risks faced by the essential workers who feed us, the fragility of our supply chains, and the challenges of food insecure people and communities across our state.

This bond is an important part of California's response to these twin crises. It is an opportunity to advance economic recovery by investing in increasing access to healthy food; combating hunger in our communities; building resilient and reliable regional food supply chains; supporting small and mid-sized farmers and ranchers; expanding climate-smart farming practices, including organic; and protecting workers in our fields. Perhaps most importantly, this bond is designed to address long-standing inequities in our food system by directing significant resources to farmers, ranchers, and communities of color that have historically been excluded from many state programs.

Now is the time for our state to invest in a 21st century food and farming system. Whatever challenges we face in the future, AB 408 will help catalyze the development of the nimble, diverse, resilient food and farming system our state needs to thrive.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,