



Alaska Food Policy Council

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November 2, 2023

Subject: Appreciation and Support for HB 196 and SB 149 – Implementation of Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

Dear Representative Mina and Senator Giessel,

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Food Policy Council to express our heartfelt appreciation for your unwavering dedication to addressing the critical issues of food security and nutrition in Alaska. We commend your proactive approach in introducing House Bill 196 (HB 196) and Senate Bill 149 (SB 149), which advocate for the implementation of Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (BBCE) within the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) in our state.

The Alaska Food Policy Council comprises a diverse group of individuals with expertise in fields such as agriculture, nutrition, public health, economics, and community development. Our partners and Board members possess a deep understanding of the unique challenges faced by Alaskan communities and are committed to developing evidence-based strategies that promote food security, Alaskan agriculture, and equitable access to nutritious food. We actively engage with local stakeholders, conduct research, and collaborate with policymakers to develop innovative solutions to enhance the well-being of our fellow Alaskans.

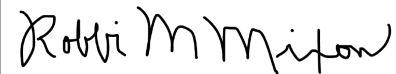
We believe that the implementation of BBCE, as outlined in HB 196 and SB 149, aligns with our organization's vision for a more resilient and food secure Alaska. By simplifying the SNAP application process and ensuring access to vital nutritional support for vulnerable populations, these bills not only improve the lives of Alaskan residents but also offer substantial benefits to the state. The streamlined process would lead to significant cost savings and enhanced efficiency for the Division of Public Assistance, allowing resources to be allocated more effectively, ultimately benefiting both the government and the citizens it serves.

We, the Alaska Food Policy Council, stand in full support of HB 196 and SB 149. Your efforts are crucial in advancing the well-being of our communities, and we believe that these bills are pivotal steps toward building a more secure and nourished Alaska. We applaud your leadership and dedication to

this important cause and are confident that your continued support for these bills will make a lasting and positive impact on the lives of countless Alaskans.

Thank you for your tireless advocacy. We will continue to follow these bills and work to support your efforts. If we can provide additional information to help you move these bills forward, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to the positive changes that these bills will bring to Alaska.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robbi Mixon". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Robbi Mixon
Executive Director, Alaska Food Policy Council