

Submitter: Kevin Walsh
On Behalf Of: healthy children
Committee: Senate Committee On Education
Measure, Appointment or Topic: SB1581

Senators, I practiced family medicine with farmworkers and their families for 24 years. The cost of living stretched every one of the families I for whom I cared. Cheap, empty calories are not sufficient to nourish growing children. Today the state government is reeling under the financial burden of decreased taxes and decreased federal funds for essential programs pushed on our state by HR1. Today 1 in 6 children in our state live in households that struggle to afford food and visits to our food banks is 50% higher than 2 years ago. Please make access to a healthy breakfast available to our children in school. Please make this program efficient and accountable but do not cut it. It is essential. Our childrens' health is essential.

Thank you all for your service to our communities.

Kevin Walsh, MD