

Talking Points

AB 1871 (Bonta) – Student Access and Equity at Charter Schools

Bill Summary:

AB 1871 will fight hunger, advance equity, and support student success by guaranteeing that low-income charter school students have access to school meals.

AB 1871 will guarantee that all low-income, public school students, including charter school students, have access to at least one nutritious, free or low-cost school meal each school day.

Talking Points:

- All students deserve equal access to the basic resources that support their success, including school meals. We are proud to co-sponsor AB 1871 because it will guarantee that all low-income, public school students attending a charter school, have access to at least one nutritious, free or low-cost school meal each school day. School meals are a critical resource for all students in need, no matter which public school they attend.
- Unlike all other low-income, public school students, charter school students are not protected by the existing state law that grants students in need access to school meals. This must change to guarantee student access at California's charter schools. They must be required to serve high-need students at the same level as neighborhood public schools.
- Current law deters low-income students from attending charter schools. We must eliminate any practices that serve to weed out certain children or families – whether intentional or unintentional.