



SPUR

San Francisco | San Jose | Oakland

May 16, 2018

Assemblymember Lorena Gonzalez-Fletcher
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2335 (Ting): Corner Store Refrigeration Pilot Program – Support

Dear Assemblymember Gonzales-Fletcher:

On behalf of SPUR, I am writing in support of AB 2335, which would create the Corner Store Refrigeration Pilot Program within the California Department of Food and Agriculture. The pilot program would provide grants to corner stores and other small-scale stores with a limited selection of food products to purchase energy efficient refrigeration and receive technical assistance to aid them in becoming healthy food retailers. Eligible businesses in counties throughout the state would agree to stock fresh California produce in the purchased refrigeration units.

In our report, *Healthy Food Within Reach*, we highlight the importance of reducing the barriers that Bay Area residents face in accessing healthy food. In too many places, finding a retailer who sells healthy food is an obstacle. Often, corner stores are the only retail option in the neighborhood and they often need support in transitioning to healthier business model.

AB 2335 would help corner stores offer healthier food options, which would help improve food access. For this reason, we support AB 2335.

Sincerely,

Eli Zigas
Food and Agriculture Policy Director

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