



CHILDREN LEARNING, PARENTS EARNING 1540 River Park Drive, Suite 209, Sacramento, CA 95815 Phone: (916) 567-6797 FAX: (916) 567-6790

CAPPA Board of Directors

April 11, 2013

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The Honorable Ben Hueso
Capitol Office
Sacramento, CA 94249-0014

Email: maria.garcia@sen.ca.gov

RE: SUPPORT of SB 134: No Hunger for Heroes Act: eliminates barriers to CalFresh nutrition assistance for active-duty military families and veterans.

Dear Senator Hueso,

On behalf of the California Alternative Payment Program Association (CAPPA) and the membership of public and private community based direct payers of early care and education child care subsidies for CalWORKs and working families, we support SB 134.

Alternative Payment Programs (APPs) have been serving each of California's 58 counties since 1978. Each APP is uniquely positioned to meet the cultural, linguistic and diversity needs of fragile populations needing early care and education for children from birth on while parents move towards self sufficiency. The safety net of support and information our agencies provide to working families ensures that parental choice determines the provider of early care and education that best supports the needs of the family. Our collective goal is to strike a balance where both the educational needs of our earliest learners are met immediately as well as contribute to longer term educational attainments; **and** that the self-sufficiency of parents to support their families is realized.

Many of our agencies have an up close vantage point of the challenges facing our military heroes. Due to diminished investments of Federal and State support in the infrastructure desperately needed to support transition back to life in California, our military heroes are coming home and facing uncertainly about securing and maintaining housing, finding quality child care, and food insecurities. We see your legislation as necessary in removing the roadblocks to access for more military families and children to CalFRESH benefits.

For the reasons noted above, CAPPA supports your bill, SB 134. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Denyne M. Micheletti'.

Denyne M. Micheletti
Executive Director

