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# SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

Senator Sabrina Cervantes, Chair  
2025 - 2026 Regular Session

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## SB 1325 (Jones) - CalFood Program

**Version:** April 27, 2026

**Urgency:** No

**Hearing Date:** May 4, 2026

**Policy Vote:** HUMAN S. 3 - 0

**Mandate:** No

**Consultant:** Agnes Lee

**Bill Summary:** SB 1325 would expand the criteria determining which entities are eligible to receive funding under the CalFood program.

### Fiscal Impact:

- Unknown ongoing General Fund costs, potentially hundreds of thousands, for the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) for state administration.
- Unknown General Fund cost pressures to increase funding for the CalFood program.

**Background:** The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) is a federal program that distributes foods purchased by United States Department of Agriculture to needy individuals and households. States choose which eligible recipient agencies will distribute TEFAP foods and require those agencies to abide by TEFAP federal and state regulations. There are 49 eligible recipient agencies designated as TEFAP providers in California that serve a network of food pantries, soup kitchens and other emergency food providers in all 58 counties.

California's CalFood program, administered by the CDSS, provides state funding for the purchase, storage, and transportation of food grown or produced in California. Current law requires the CalFood program to provide food and funding for the provision of emergency food to food banks established pursuant to the federal TEFAP. The CalFood program allocates funding to California's network of TEFAP providers. The 2025 Budget Act included \$80 million General Fund for the CalFood program. The Governor's proposed budget for 2026-27 includes only \$8 million General Fund for the CalFood program.

**Proposed Law:** SB 1325 would additionally require the CalFood program to provide food and funding to food banks that are members of the nonprofit organization Feeding America that are based in California, located in a county with a population of over 3,000,000 people, and are not established pursuant to the federal TEFAP, if they meet all of the following requirements:

- The food bank must comply with the federal and state eligibility determination, food ordering procedures, storage and warehousing practices, inventory controls, approval of distribution sites, reporting and recordkeeping requirements, and civil rights laws and regulations required of the food banks established pursuant to the federal TEFAP.

- The food bank must provide evidence that there are households within the county it serves that are not served by a food bank established pursuant to the federal TEFAP under the CalFood Program, but that are instead served by the food bank within its current network.
- The food bank must use 100 percent of the funding received under the CalFood Program for food purchases.

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