



## 2022 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Foodlink urges all state representatives throughout its 10-county service area to support the following legislation to improve the health, food security and economic mobility of New York residents. The proposed bills and budget items are organized based on Foodlink’s three areas of focus within its Advocacy Agenda: (1) Ensure no one goes hungry, (2) Improve access to healthy food; and (3) Eliminate the root causes of hunger.

### ENSURE NO ONE GOES HUNGRY

<p><b>Hunger Prevention and Nutrition Assistance Program (HPNAP)</b></p>	<p>Raise the HPNAP budget to <b>\$54 million</b> (an increase of \$20M) to provide the emergency food system with the resources they need.</p>
<p><b>Nourish New York (NNY)</b></p>	<p>Increase the Nourish NY funding to <b>\$85 million</b> (an increase of \$35M) to support local growers, and food-insecure families.</p>
<p><b>Capital Funding</b></p>	<p>Create a new, <b>\$10 million</b> Capital Funding Program for food banks in NYS to upgrade our equipment and facilities.</p>

**“I am a household of 1, but I do have grandchildren who come to my house all the time ... and grandma's gonna feed her grandkids! Without our local food pantry, I just wouldn't be able to eat as much, or feed the grandkids. The pantry has a wide variety of fruits and vegetables that I need to eat because of my health. It's harder to find those sometimes because it's so expensive at the store.”**

**- Vanetta M, Rochester, NY**



**IMPROVE ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD IN SCHOOLS AND LOW-INCOME COMMUNITIES**

S7534 / A8580	Amend municipal procurement law to allow schools and other institutions to purchase <b>food that provides the highest value</b> to their community, <u>not just the lowest bid.</u>
S3974 / A7482	Support students and schools by providing healthy, local school breakfast and lunch. This legislation makes it easier for school districts to <b>require meal vendors to use NYS agricultural products.</b>
S4315 / A4820	Extends a financial incentive for school districts to <b>source local ingredients for their school breakfast program.</b> School districts will be able to receive an additional \$.25/meal if they source at least 30% of their food from NYS producers.
S7877 / A9123	<b>Establish a statewide healthy food incentives program for SNAP</b> benefits so that individuals and families can purchase more fruits and vegetables from grocery stores, farmers markets, and other vendors.

***Did you know?***

**The Foodlink Community Kitchen prepares and delivers more than 10,000 meals and snacks daily to students in the City of Rochester?**

**Our innovative menu far exceeds federal nutrition guidelines and ensures kids are properly nourished and can reach their true potential.**



**ELIMINATE THE ROOT CAUSES OF HUNGER**

<p><b>Jobs &amp; Wages</b> S3062B / A7503A</p>	<p>Support legislation to raise the state’s minimum wage to \$15/hour and index future growth to inflation. This will ensure that essential workers and their families keep up with the rising cost of living and can provide for themselves and their community.</p>
<p><b>Children &amp; Families</b> Bill # TBD  S63A / A3415A</p>	<p>Support children through their most critical development phase by extending the Empire State Child Tax Credit to children under the age of 4.</p> <p>Provide an \$80 diaper allowance every three months per child to families who receive TANF.</p>
<p><b>Benefits Programs</b> S742 / A2214</p>	<p>Eliminate asset testing for most forms of public assistance to ensure that someone can receive the help they need before falling into desperate poverty.</p>
<p><b>Healthcare</b> S5474 / A6058</p>	<p>Enact a single payer healthcare system in NYS to ensure that everyone has access to the same high-quality care and medicine without sacrificing their food and household budget.</p>
<p><b>Housing</b> S3082 / A5573</p>	<p>Support legislation to prevent no-fault evictions, establish a right to automatic lease renewal in most cases, and prevent steep rent increases.</p>
<p><b>Criminal Justice Reform</b> S1553A / A6399</p>	<p>Support the Clean Slate Act that will automatically clear a New Yorker’s conviction record once they become eligible.</p>