



April 13, 2018

The Honorable Ed Hernandez
Chair, Senate Health Committee
State Capitol Building, Room 2080
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1138 – Plant-based food options – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Hernandez,

On behalf of the Plant Based Foods Association (PBFA) and our 110-member companies, thank you for the opportunity to express our support for SB 1138 to provide plant-based options at state prisons and licensed healthcare facilities. We would like to thank Senator Skinner for introducing this important legislation.

PBFA was founded in 2016 to promote the growing plant-based foods industry. Our members range from small, innovative start-ups to large food companies, a few of which have been in operation for more than 100 years.

The popularity of plant-based foods is outpacing traditional grocery, with sales of plant-based foods increasing 8.1 percent last year, compared to a slight decline in sales of all foods sold in the same channels. Whether for health, environmental, or ethical reasons, plant-based foods are increasingly popular. We believe that everyone – including healthcare patients and inmates – should have access to plant-based foods.

Plant-based foods are also better for the environment. For California to meet its climate goals and preserve its precious land and water resources, the state must reduce emissions associated with meat and dairy. Providing plant-based options at institutions is a direct and cost-effective means of meeting these goals.

Thank you for your consideration of our position, and please do not hesitate to reach out if we can provide any further information.

Sincerely,

Michele Simon
Executive Director
Plant Based Foods Association

CC: Members of the Senate Health Committee