

15 February 2025

House Bill 12 support

Honorable Representative Maxine Dibert State Capitol Room 128 Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Dibert.

On behalf of the members of the Mat-Su Food Coalition we welcome and fully support House Bill 12.

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The Mat Su Food Coalition (MSFC) is an alliance of nonprofit organizations fighting hunger in the Mat-Su Borough. We are committed to a stronger, healthier community with food security for all. We maintain a strong support network focused on effective hunger relief and food advocacy.

In the pantries across the Mat-Su we see the growing food need by the public. Moreover, many of our pantries now have programs to feed our children with after-school food resources, Friday weekend food supplies and especially Christmas and Spring Break when schools are closed. Summer also sees more programs for feeding our children.

It is very important to pass House Bill 12. Food lunch is a cornerstone in the diet of many students. Passing this bill will increase attendance, improve learning and test scores and avoid the pitfalls of food shaming in the cafeteria. It will be a relief to the parents in seeing their children with more and better nutrition as well as better school work and grades.

HB12 is good for us all, now and for all our futures. We are happy to voice our complete support for HB12. Let us know how more we may support this work. Please note our web address and my contact information below.

Thank you, Joseph Davis President, Mat-Su Food Coalition

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