



COMMUNITY ALLIANCE  
WITH FAMILY FARMERS

April 18, 2018

The Honorable Anna Caballero  
Chair, Assembly Agriculture Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 362  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
[victor.francovich@asm.ca.gov](mailto:victor.francovich@asm.ca.gov)

**Re: AB 2909-- Small Poultry Producer Protection Act--SUPPORT**

Dear Chairwoman Caballero:

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) is a statewide organization that represents both farmers and non-farm urban residents who support sustainable food and farming policies. CAFF is pleased to support AB 2909 (Wood), which would create a state registration for small-scale poultry producers who are exempt from Federal regulation.

Poultry producers who slaughter fewer than 1,000 birds have been exempt from state and federal oversight and it has been left up to the counties to regulate them. Poultry producers who slaughter more than 1,000 birds but fewer than 20,000 have some state oversight, since USDA pays the state to inspect them. However, some of the standards they are held to were devised for large-scale poultry processing and are costly and unnecessary. This bill would require CDFA to develop registration and best management practices for this group, allowing them to operate legally. It would also specify that such farmers are an approved source of poultry and would allow them to hire non-family members to slaughter and package poultry products on their farms. This would expand the markets they can access.

CAFF has been a consistent supporter of efforts to create scale-appropriate regulation for small producers, and we believe that AB 2909 would accomplish this for small-scale poultry operations. We urge your support for AB 2909.

Sincerely,

David Runsten  
Policy Director