AB405/SB233 Studies Subcommittee

AB405 - related to agriculture; requiring "the Council on Food Security to conduct a study during the 2025-2026 interim to evaluate food insecurity in this State and develop strategies to coordinate statewide efforts to address food insecurity, and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

A.) Evaluation of Existing Laws and Policies

Task ID	Task Descriptions	Supporting Partners	Target Date	Februrary	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
AB405-A1	Conduct workshop evaluating food access laws and policies	NDA, CFS		The Nevada Department of Agriculture (NDA) may have access to some of the information we need, but the foundation for this work comes from the Southern Nevada Food Council (SNFC). SNFC previously evaluated 34 food access policies dating from 2013 to 2025, including those from the most recent legislative session. A workshop now needs to be scheduled so the subcommittee can review and discuss these policies. The plan is to hold this workshop during the April committee meeting, and it is expected to take 40 minutes to 1 hour. Dr. Malik will send the 34 policies to the subcommittee before the April meeting, so members have time to review them in advance. This workshop is required to evaluate existing food access laws and identify gaps, strengths, and opportunities. Preparing for the April workshop means all subcommittee members should review the 34 policies ahead of time.	Dr. Malik provided a presentation on current food insecurity policies in Nevada - 25 food access policies - will cover other next month. Presentation in AB/SB subcommittee meeting packet	Dr. Malik - continued presentation/workshop on evaluation of the food access laws and policies. Completed 35 policies - the report will be available in May's meeting.	**Discuss results, strengths and weaknesses**				
AB405-A2	Document gaps, strengths, and opportunities in existing laws and policies			Conduct workshop first							

B.) Identificatin of Areas for Community Gardens or Urban Farms

Task ID	Task Descriptions	Supporting Partners	Target Date	Februrary	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
AB405-B1	Utilize Healthy Food Access Map to identify areas of high food insecurity			Southern Nevada already has a completed food access map and a vacant land inventory, based on work done by the Southern Nevada Food Council. That information is available and can be used immediately. Northern Nevada, however, is still developing its version. The Northern Nevada Food Council (NNFC) is working on mapping food access and food pantry locations, but it is not yet finished. Because of that, the subcommittee needs to do additional research to understand what data exists and what gaps remain. The key question is: Who currently has a complete food access map for Northern Nevada? Right now, Southern Nevada has one; Northern Nevada does not.			**Community Gardens** **RTC to overlay land maps?**				
AB405-B2	Overlay vacant land inventory (Southern Nevada) with food insecurity data			The RTC of Southern Nevada has already completed a vacant land inventory identifying roughly 40,000 acres of available land in Southern Nevada. This work was published in 2024 or 2025, and it can be used as an existing resource for the subcommittee's analysis. It is not yet clear whether Northern Nevada has a comparable inventory. Southern Nevada also has a food access map, but it is still unknown whether Northern Nevada has a similar map. The Northern Nevada Food Council (NNFC) is working on mapping food pantry locations, but their broader food access map is not yet complete. Because of this, the subcommittee needs to research what Northern Nevada currently has and what gaps remain. The May meeting is expected to focus on reviewing both the food access map and the vacant land inventory. These are two separate mapping resources, and both are needed to understand statewide food access gaps and opportunities. A key question is whether the policy requires the subcommittee to recommend a statewide food access landscape assessment or simply evaluate what already exists. It is also unclear whether policymakers are aware that Southern Nevada already has these resources. To address this, the subcommittee should highlight all currently available resources in its report. To move forward, the group needs to:1.)Determine whether Northern Nevada has a food access map or any partial mapping. 2.)Gather available Northern Nevada data. 3.)Decide whether a statewide assessment is needed to fill gaps. 4.)Conduct a partner mapping activity at a future meeting to identify who is involved and how efforts connect across the state.							
AB405-B3	Assess applicability of Food Access Landscape Assessment for statewide										

C.) Coordination of Efforts

Task ID	Task Descriptions	Supporting Partners	Target Date	Februrary	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
AB405-C1	Document current coordination efforts among state, local, and private entities			To identify coordination opportunities across the state, the subcommittee will reach out to Council members and ask them to provide a list of their supporting and coordinating partners. Because members represent different sectors and regions, these lists will help us understand who is already working together and where gaps may exist. During a future meeting, the subcommittee will hold a whiteboard-style collaborative activity. The goal is to visually map out a web of partners—showing how organizations connect, where efforts overlap, and where additional coordination may be needed. This exercise will be based on the partners that subcommittee members already know and work with. Once the subcommittee creates this initial partner map, it can be presented to the full Council. Council members can then add any additional partners or connections that were not captured, helping to build a more complete statewide picture.			**Identify organizations that have collaborated and for future collaboration - use the strategic plan - this may be a June activity.**				

D.) Recommendations

Task ID	Task Descriptions	Supporting Partners	Target Date	Februrary	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
AB405-D1	Convene Council to review findings and develop recommendations			This will be a later activity - need to get through the others							
AB405-D2	Finalize coordinated strategies to reduce food insecurity										

SB233 related to agriculture; requiring "the Council on Food Security within the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a study on the Home Feeds Nevada Agriculture Food Purchase Program; making an appropriation; and providing other matters properly relating thereto."

A.) SB233 Study Tasks

Task ID	Task Descriptions	Supporting Partners	Target Date	Februrary	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
SB233-1	Identify and convene stakeholders to provide input on long-term cost pressures (e.g., warehousing, transportation, coordination, software)	NDA, Farm Bureau		NDA must be at the table before any meaningful progress can be made. NDA is the agency responsible for initiating the contracts for the Home Feeds Nevada program, while the food banks are primarily the receivers of the product. Because of this, the committee needs NDA's involvement to address key logistical issues such as storage capacity, transportation, and distribution flow. A request will be made for an NDA representative to formally sit on the subcommittee, so questions can be addressed directly during meetings rather than waiting weeks between updates. This participation is essential for statewide coordination and for understanding how the program will function in practice. In addition, the committee must research how other states fund and operate similar programs. More than 20 states have comparable models, and members will divide the list of states and bring their findings to the April meeting. This research will help the subcommittee understand funding structures, operational models, and potential best practices that could apply to Nevada.	Shane will reach out to NDA and the Farm Bureau to invite them to the April meeting. The goal is to gather input for the HFN report and ensure we understand NDA's perspective, including their barriers, challenges, and successes. HFN has an annual report - and the 2025 report is available from the last CFS Meeting	Packet for April meeing-Previous reports needed - Presentation from 3square and FBNN April discussion items for HFN Questions for the Next meeting - Warehousing - Transportation - Coordination - Software - Barriers, Succeses	**Discuss BDR Ideas** **Grant Ideas/upcoming Grant Applications** **Food is Medicine Grant Opportunity - June start if Nevada gets it** **Asking for at least 25% cash match of the state??**				
SB233-2	Document operational and financial challenges affecting long-term program sustainability				Loss of Federal funding No funding is transfered to the food banks - NDA purchase the products and distribute. Evaluation metrics - is this working and how should this continue. Food banks can get the raw numbers - that goes in the report	Home feeds Nevada Reports to review					
SB233-3	Research and document funding models used by other states (e.g., tax revenue, state appropriations, economic development funding, insurance partnerships)			The legislative intent behind the bill includes identifying funding sources and understanding how similar programs operate in other states. To do this, the committee needs to explore what other states are doing and speak with individuals in the State Treasurer's Office, who may know where additional funds could be identified, allocated, or repurposed. The goal is to take a holistic approach to funding and program design. More than 20 states already have comparable programs. The committee needs to understand: 1.) How those programs are structured. 2.)How they are funded. 3.)What models might apply to Nevada. A list of these states already exists, and Shane will share it with the Council. Once the list is distributed, each committee member will be assigned one or two states to research. Members will review how those states fund and operate their programs and bring their findings to the April meeting.	Other grants put out - Shane will be working on what other states are doing - found Gfund has been collecting, Not a clear definition of what the funding sources are but will continue to research. UNR extention has fact sheets for how other states have spent funs.	Other states are using G Funds. Funding recommendations: Farmer Survey on effects of funding drop - Focus group/roundtable of the Farmers. Medicaid - support - Rx pantry programs. Rural Health Transformation Grant - District/County collaboration HRSA Grant - Expanded Nutrion Services (ENS) State Treasurer's offices outreach for Bond opportunties. Match dollars with grocery stores to round up for Home Feeds Nevada - dollar to dollar match. Nevada retail association. Next steps: reach out to organizations - shane Neada retailers association and treasurer offices.					
SB233-4	Combine findings into draft report										