Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

August 3, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom Governor

The Honorable Toni Atkins President pro Tempore California State Senate

The Honorable Anthony Rendon Speaker California State Assembly

RE: The FAST Recovery Act (AB 257)

Dear Governor Newsom, President pro Tempore Atkins, and Speaker Rendon,

Our country has a historic opportunity to help address income inequality for the 140 million Americans living in poverty today who are disproportionately represented in low-wage industries like fast food.

We, as California representatives in the U.S. House of Representatives, invite you to support Assemblymember Chris R. Holden's (D – Pasadena) AB 257 or the "FAST Recovery Act". This landmark bill would create a fast-food industry-wide council in California where workers, employers and state agencies can work together to deliberate and devise common sense solutions to worker pay, protections, benefits, and training. Most importantly, codifying AB 257 would help lay the groundwork to expand sector councils not only in California but across the United States - a watershed moment for the low-wage workforce nationwide.

This is an unprecedented opportunity for state legislatures and the U.S. Congress to address income inequality for working class Americans. According to the American Constitutional Society, AB 257 "offers a path to achieve a fairer and more effective regulatory system" in industries like fast food who disproportionately rely on low-wage workers. Investing in organizing models like AB 257 - that include workers in the decision-making process - is key to addressing rising income inequality, increasing the country's labor participation rate, and getting Americans back to work nationwide.

Fighting inflation requires we support bold policy solutions that increase workforce participation and economic productivity. As such, we urge you to consider supporting AB 257 and the benefits this type of approach would have not only for states but the entire nation. Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this request consistent with all applicable laws and regulations.

Sincerely,

Ro Khanna

Member of Congress

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

Karen Bass Mambar of Co

Member of Congress

Mark DeSaulnier Member of Congress

Barbara Lee

Member of Congress

Mike Levin

Member of Congress

Zoe Lotgren

Member of Congress

Jua**n** Vargas

Member of Congress