

# MACA

## Affordable Groceries

**Lower checkout costs. Expand access. Stretch family budgets.**

MACA will tackle the real causes of grocery strain in California by expanding food access, reducing waste and operating costs, strengthening neighborhood retail, and moving more California-grown food to California families at fairer prices.

- 1. Expand grocery access in underserved areas.** MACA will support neighborhood grocers, mobile markets, and faster local approvals in low-access communities so families can buy affordable staples closer to home.
- 2. Keep fresh food fresh and on shelves.** MACA will expand refrigeration, storage, and cold-chain support for small stores and food banks so produce lasts longer, spoilage falls, and prices stay steadier.
- 3. Move more California-grown food into California carts.** MACA will back food hubs and regional distribution links that connect farmers to stores, schools, and community markets with fewer middle-mile costs.
- 4. Stretch CalFresh, WIC, and senior dollars further.** MACA will support produce incentives, simpler enrollment, and broader acceptance at small retailers and farmers markets so benefits buy more healthy food.
- 5. Lower operating costs honestly.** MACA will pursue practical relief on energy, freight, and compliance burdens that raise shelf prices while acknowledging that national commodity prices also affect the final bill.
- 6. Support competition and community retail.** MACA will encourage independent grocers, discount formats, co-ops, and culturally relevant food retailers in high-price neighborhoods so consumers have more choice and better value.
- 7. Publish quarterly grocery affordability results.** MACA will issue a public dashboard tracking staple prices, store access, fresh-food availability, and benefit reach so Californians can judge the plan by facts, not slogans.