

**From:** [JJC](#)  
**To:** [JJC](#); [BSCC Regulations](#)  
**Subject:** Suggestions for BSCC Nutrition Workgroup  
**Date:** Monday, February 26, 2024 3:41:49 PM

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Dear BSCC Nutrition Workgroup,

We were recently informed by Ramon Leija of the Office of Youth and Community Restoration (OYCR) that your working group is scheduled to meet this Wednesday, Feb. 28th and that public comments and suggestions will be considered during this meeting. Because our commissioners will not be able to attend this meeting in person they have requested that I forward this email containing their suggestions to your working group. If there is a published agenda and a Zoom link for this meeting, please forward them to me.

During the Orange County Juvenile Justice Commission's annual inspections of juvenile detention facilities in Orange County, youth often complain about the quantity and quality of food served to them. Basically, they would like to be served more food and better tasting food. We have confirmed that the meals and snacks served at these facilities in Orange County are in compliance with applicable government dietary regulations and guidelines. Please consider that food is one of the important rights listed on the new Youth Bill of Rights poster prepared by the OYCR and set forth in CA WIC Section 224.71 (c): "You have the right to eat healthy food and snacks."

We respectfully suggest that the BSCC update and revise the applicable dietary regulations and guidelines to allow more calories and food selections for youth in CA juvenile detention facilities. Please consider that many of these youth are young and still growing so, understandably, have big appetites. They've told us they are often still hungry after meals and snacks. Please also consider when reviewing your regulations that these youth come from different ethnic backgrounds and would appreciate being offered healthy ethnic food choices more often. Rather than waiting for youth to file food related complaints with the OYCR, we suggest that the BSCC issue regulations which would set up a formal procedure for youth to have some input in the selection of food served to them for meals and snacks. We also suggest that the BSCC issue regulations allowing for more seasonings and condiments to be available to improve the taste of the food served to these youth.

Thank you,  
Lii Toelupe  
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