

## **5 Key Elements for Creating a Successful Vending Policy**

*Erin Gabel, District Representative*

*Senator Tom Torlakson, District 7*

1. HAVE AN ELECTED “CHAMPION”
  - a) Why? Champion will see it through the politics.
  - b) A champion can be found or made—prior interest in public health, nutrition helps!
  - c) Be armed with the information about why this is relevant to obesity issue.
- 2) WORK CLOSELY WITH PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERTS AND LEADERSHIP
  - a) From county health department, UC cooperative extension or universities
  - b) Create an inventory of current policy or lack thereof:
    - Is anyone in charge now?
    - Who regulates or has any jurisdiction, or could?
    - Make sure those folks are at the table.
- 3) MAKE THE POLICY REASONABLE
  - a) Know your priorities early and make sure your champion shares them.
  - b) Understand that the policy process contains many compromises.
  - c) Ask yourself:
    - What is our ultimate goal?
    - What are we willing to fight for?
    - What is realistic?
- 4) MAKE THE POLICY ENFORCEABLE
  - a) Get all administrators at the table early; keep bill reality-based.
  - b) Put someone in charge and held accountable.
  - c) Have deadlines/timelines for implementation and enforcement.
  - d) Include regular reporting to authorizing agencies (Board of Sups, etc) to keep it on the radar.
- 5) HAVE YOUR VENDING POLICY BE MORE THAN AN END—A MEANS/OPPORTUNITY FOR EDUCATION
  - a) Puts obesity and nutritional health on radar for elected reps and public.
  - b) Follow up and pick a new goal.