

SENATE No. 118

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Edward J. Kennedy

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act concerning food insecurity and supporting the restaurant industry.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Edward J. Kennedy</i> | <i>First Middlesex</i> | |
| <i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i> | <i>1st Hampshire</i> | <i>2/26/2021</i> |
| <i>Michael O. Moore</i> | <i>Second Worcester</i> | <i>3/11/2021</i> |
| <i>John Cronin</i> | <i>Worcester and Middlesex</i> | <i>3/11/2021</i> |
| <i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i> | <i>11th Suffolk</i> | <i>3/19/2021</i> |
| <i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i> | <i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i> | <i>3/23/2021</i> |
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i> | <i>3/23/2021</i> |

SENATE No. 118

By Mr. Kennedy, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 118) of Edward J. Kennedy, Lindsay N. Sabadosa, Michael O. Moore, John Cronin and other members of the General Court for legislation to concern food insecurity and supporting the restaurant industry. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act concerning food insecurity and supporting the restaurant industry.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 18 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 39 the
2 following section:-

3 Section 40. SNAP Restaurant Meals Program.

4 (a) The Department of Transitional Assistance shall establish a Restaurant Meals
5 Program as part of the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Under the
6 Restaurant Meals Program, households containing elderly or disabled members, and their
7 spouses, as defined in 7 U.S.C. 2012(j), or homeless individuals, as defined in 7 U.S.C. 2012(l),
8 shall have the option in accordance with 7 U.S.C. 2012(k) to redeem their SNAP benefits at
9 private establishments that contract with the Department to offer meals for eligible individuals at
10 concessional prices subject to 7 U.S.C. 2018(h).

11 (b) The Department of Transitional Assistance shall adopt any rules necessary to
12 implement the provisions of this Section.