

SENATE No. 68

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patrick M. O'Connor

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 relative to SNAP nutritional reform.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>

SENATE No. 68

By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 68) of Patrick M. O'Connor, Donald F. Humason, Jr. and Ryan C. Fattman for legislation relative to SNAP nutritional reform. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to SNAP nutritional reform.

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 the following sections:

2 SECTION __.

3 Restrictions on use of public benefit cards.

4 (a) Any state entity that issues a public benefit card to an individual for the purpose of
5 subsidizing the cost of food for such person or his or her family, shall ensure that such cards may
6 only be used to purchase food and beverage items that are not deemed luxury food items by the
7 United States department of agriculture and have been declared exempt from taxation by the
8 department of taxation and finance.

9 SECTION __.

10 Restrictions on use of public benefit cards.

11 (a) Any municipal entity that issues a public benefit card to an individual for the purpose
12 of subsidizing the cost of food for such person or his or her family, shall ensure that such cards
13 may only be used to purchase food and beverage items that are not deemed luxury food items by
14 the United States department of agriculture and have been declared exempt from taxation by the
15 department of taxation and finance.