

HOUSE No. 584

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Andres X. Vargas and Cynthia Stone Creem

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 to expand access to school meals.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Andres X. Vargas</i> | <i>3rd Essex</i> | <i>1/18/2019</i> |
| <i>Cynthia Stone Creem</i> | <i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i> | <i>1/18/2019</i> |
| <i>Maria Duaiame Robinson</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/22/2019</i> |
| <i>Tram T. Nguyen</i> | <i>18th Essex</i> | <i>1/28/2019</i> |
| <i>Christine P. Barber</i> | <i>34th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/29/2019</i> |
| <i>Jennifer E. Benson</i> | <i>37th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/29/2019</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Blais</i> | <i>1st Franklin</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Marjorie C. Decker</i> | <i>25th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Mathew J. Muratore</i> | <i>1st Plymouth</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Paul McMurtry</i> | <i>11th Norfolk</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Steven Ultrino</i> | <i>33rd Middlesex</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i> | <i>13th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Carlos González</i> | <i>10th Hampden</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i> | <i>15th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Mike Connolly</i> | <i>26th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Julian Cyr</i> | <i>Cape and Islands</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Linda Dean Campbell</i> | <i>15th Essex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Mindy Domb</i> | <i>3rd Hampshire</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Nika C. Elugardo</i> | <i>15th Suffolk</i> | <i>2/3/2019</i> |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i> | <i>2nd Bristol</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Stephan Hay</i> | <i>3rd Worcester</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Higgins</i> | <i>4th Worcester</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i> | <i>Second Middlesex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i> | <i>4th Plymouth</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Kay Khan</i> | <i>11th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i> | <i>7th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Christina A. Minicucci</i> | <i>14th Essex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Liz Miranda</i> | <i>5th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i> | <i>14th Norfolk</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i> | <i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Bruce E. Tarr</i> | <i>First Essex and Middlesex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>José F. Tosado</i> | <i>9th Hampden</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Paul F. Tucker</i> | <i>7th Essex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |

HOUSE No. 584

By Representative Vargas of Haverhill and Senator Creem, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 584) of Andres X. Vargas, Cynthia Stone Creem and others for legislation to expand access to school meals. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act to expand access to school meals.

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

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 72 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting the following new section:

3 Section 72A: School districts shall qualify a student for free meal status if said child is a)
4 under the legal custody or guardianship of a grandparent or other non-parent relative, b) a child
5 with disabilities who receives Supplemental Security Income benefits pursuant to 42 U.S.C.
6 1382, or c) a child with special needs who was formerly in foster care and whose caregivers now
7 receive assistance under Title IV B or IVE guardianship or adoption assistance pursuant to 42
8 U.S.C.621.

9 The department of elementary and secondary education shall reimburse school districts
10 for costs incurred under this section . The department shall take reasonable steps to determine
11 whether such children qualify for direct certification of free school meals under 42 U.S.C. 1758

- 12 (b) (5), including children in receipt of MassHealth benefits in accordance with Chapter 118E of
13 the General Laws.