

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2630**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Paul A. Schmid, III***

*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 provide a tax deduction for charitable donations of food by farmers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>	<i>1/10/2019</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Antonio F. D. Cabral</i>	<i>13th Bristol</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/24/2019</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>	<i>1/17/2019</i>
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>	<i>1/24/2019</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>	<i>1/24/2019</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2019</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>

<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2019</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Harold P. Naughton, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Norman J. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Angelo M. Scaccia</i>	<i>14th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>	<i>1/19/2019</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>1/22/2019</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2630**

By Mr. Schmid of Westport, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2630) of Paul A. Schmid, III and others for legislation to establish a tax deduction for charitable donations of food by certain farmers. Revenue.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to provide a tax deduction for charitable donations of food by farmers.

*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. Section 3 of Chapter 62 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subparagraph (13), the following  
3 subparagraph:

4 (13A) In the case where the taxpayer is engaged in the trade or business of farming in the  
5 commonwealth, as defined in section 1A of chapter 128, and makes a charitable contribution of  
6 food from such farm trade or business, a charitable contribution deduction shall be allowed to the  
7 taxpayer under subparagraph (13); notwithstanding, the deductibility limitation based on the  
8 prior year’s tax rate on Part B taxable income under said subparagraph. Subject to the provisions  
9 of this subparagraph, the requirements, conditions and limitations, for charitable deductions for  
10 contributions of food inventory under section 170(e) of the Code, as amended, shall apply to  
11 determine the amount of the allowed deduction.

12 For the limited purpose of determining the amount of the allowable deduction for any  
13 charitable contribution of food, the taxpayer may elect an alternate cost basis for such  
14 contributed food, equal to 25 per cent of the food's fair market value, regardless of whether the  
15 taxpayer is required to account for inventories or capitalize indirect costs under the Code.

16 A food contribution shall not qualify for an allowable deduction under this subparagraph,  
17 unless in addition to such other requirements: (i) the contributed food complies with the  
18 applicable quality and labelling standards of "apparently wholesome food" as defined under 42  
19 U.S.C. 1791(b)(2), of the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, in effect when this  
20 subparagraph was enacted; and, (ii) the donee that accepts the contributed food from the  
21 taxpayer, is a charitable organization located in the commonwealth that is exempt from federal  
22 taxes under section 501(3)(c) of the Code, other than a private foundation, and that regularly  
23 receives and distributes contributed food of any type, for the care of individuals who are ill,  
24 needy, or infants in Massachusetts.

25 SECTION 2. Chapter 63 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
26 section 38FF, the following section:

27 Section 38GG. In determining the net income subject to tax under this chapter a  
28 corporation for profit engaged in the trade or business of farming in the commonwealth, as  
29 defined in section 1A of chapter 128, shall be allowed a deduction for charitable contributions of  
30 food by the corporation to a charitable organization. The term "charitable organization" for the  
31 purposes of this section, shall mean an organization exempt from federal taxes under section  
32 501(3)(c) of the Code, excluding private foundations, that is located in the commonwealth and

33 regularly receives and distributes contributed food in any form, for the care of individuals who  
34 are ill, needy, or infants in Massachusetts.

35           Subject to the provisions of this section, the requirements, conditions and limitations,  
36 applicable to charitable deductions for contributions of food inventory under section 170 of the  
37 Code, shall apply to determine the amount of the allowed deduction.

38           For the limited purpose of determining the amount of the allowable deduction for any  
39 charitable contribution of food, the corporation may elect an alternate cost basis for such  
40 contributed food, equal to 25 per cent of the food's fair market value, regardless of whether the  
41 corporation is required to account for inventories or capitalize indirect costs under the Code.

42           A food contribution shall not qualify for an allowable deduction under this section,  
43 unless, in addition to such other requirements, the contributed food complies with the applicable  
44 quality and labelling standards of "apparently wholesome food" as defined under 42 U.S.C.  
45 1791(b)(2), of the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, in effect when this section  
46 was enacted.

47           The allowed deduction under this section shall be in addition to other deductions  
48 allowable for corporations for profit under this chapter.

49           SECTION 3. Sections 1 and 2 shall be effective for tax years beginning on or after,  
50 January 1, 2019.