

SENATE No. 257

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

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:	
<i>Cynthia Stone Creem</i>	<i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Andres X. Vargas</i>	<i>3rd Essex</i>	
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>	<i>Second Suffolk and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>5/8/2019</i>

SENATE No. 257

By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 257) of Cynthia Stone Creem, Andres X. Vargas, William N. Brownsberger, Tram T. Nguyen and other members of the General Court for legislation to expand access to school lunch. 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.