

# SENATE . . . . . No. 140

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## 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:

*Edward J. Kennedy*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*First Middlesex*

# SENATE . . . . . No. 140

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By Mr. Kennedy, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 140) of Edward J. Kennedy for legislation relative to food insecurity and supporting the restaurant industry. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 98 OF 2023-2024.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)  
\_\_\_\_\_

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.