



THE GENERAL COURT OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1053

May 19, 2021

Honorable Jason Lewis, Senate Chair
Joint Committee on Education
State House, Room 511-B

Honorable Alice Peisch, House Chair
Joint Committee on Education
State House, Room 473G

Dear Honorable Chairs Lewis and Peisch:

I write in support of ***H715 - An Act to promote nutrition in schools.***

I'm honored to follow Rep. Vargas's lead on this bill, which promotes healthy meals and nutrition education in schools.

According to the non-profit, Project Bread, in 2020, 21.8% of families across Massachusetts faced food insecurity. Children are the most susceptible to facing food insecurity. Through providing children free healthy and nutritious meals while at school, this can help decrease this dire statistic. With this piece of legislation, it would be a landmark in changing the scope of childhood hunger, obesity and other issues related to poverty.

Another vital note about this legislation is that any child who wants school breakfast or lunch, will be provided with such, at no cost to their family and without having to sign up or providing proof of income.

The pandemic has financially burdened countless families across the Commonwealth. Many have worried how they were going to provide their children with food. However, with H715, this will help lift this burden off of their shoulders while also ensuring their children with nutritious and healthy meals. This is why I respectfully request that **House Bill H715** be released favorably from committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Liz Malia". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Liz Malia
State Representative
11th Suffolk District