

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Proposed Bill No. 6089



Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by: REP. SHANNON, 117th Dist. REP. HUGHES, 135th Dist. REP. JOHNSON, 49th Dist. REP. BUMGARDNER, 41st Dist.

AN ACT REDUCING BARRIERS TO FOOD SECURITY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 That the general statutes be amended to address food access 2 insecurity by (1) providing universal free school meals, (2) mitigating 3 benefits cliffs in state-administered assistance programs, (3) increasing 4 the minimum benefit under the supplemental nutrition assistance 5 program, (4) requiring the Commissioner of Social Services to seek federal approval for a Medicaid waiver treating food as medicine for 6 7 purposes of Medicaid funding, (5) establishing regional food access 8 hubs, (6) expanding food business incubators, (7) enhancing support for 9 local food purchasing and capacity-building grants, and (8) establishing 10 a dedicated special fund for food and nutrition in the state budget to 11 finance food access efforts and long-term sustainability of food access 12 initiatives through dedicated revenue sources.

Statement of Purpose:

To enhance access to nutritious food, support local economies and reduce barriers to food security in Connecticut.