

SENATE No. 36

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Eileen M. Donoghue

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 establishing the healthy incentives program.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Eileen M. Donoghue</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>	
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2017</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/26/2017</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>	<i>1/27/2017</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>David M. Nangle</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>2/8/2017</i>

SENATE No. 36

By Ms. Donoghue, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 36) of Eileen M. Donoghue, Denise Provost, Kevin G. Honan, Daniel M. Donahue and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish the healthy incentives program. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 69 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**
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An Act establishing the healthy incentives program.

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 30 the
2 following section:

3 Section 31. The department shall establish a healthy incentives program to improve the
4 dietary and health status of households eligible for or participating in the supplemental nutrition
5 assistance program.

6 Subject to appropriation, the department shall increase the purchasing power of
7 households participating in the supplemental nutrition assistance program by providing an
8 incentive program that enhances the benefit to participating households. The enhanced benefit
9 shall be a minimum of 30 cents per dollar spent on targeted fruits and vegetables, to be

10 determined by the department in consultation with the department of public health and the
11 department of agricultural resources. All households participating in the supplemental nutrition
12 assistance program shall be eligible for the incentive.

13 The program shall be available at all retailers that accept supplemental nutritional
14 assistance program benefits, including, but not limited to grocery stores and supermarkets, corner
15 stores and bodegas, farmers markets, mobile markets, community-supported agriculture, and
16 farm stands. The department may determine the eligible modes for processing the enhanced
17 benefit, and shall seek to utilize existing methods of redeeming nutritional benefits, including
18 electronic benefit transfer systems, token systems, and mobile loyalty and incentive platforms.

19 The department shall prepare and submit to the Governor, the Joint Committee on Public
20 Health, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the Senate Committee on Ways and
21 Means, an annual report that includes the impact of on appropriate health, nutrition, and
22 associated behavioral outcomes among households participating in the program.