



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

**Proposed Bill No. 785**

LCO No. 2036



\* 0 2 0 3 6 \*

Referred to Committee on HUMAN SERVICES

Introduced by:

SEN. GASTON, 23rd Dist.

REP. PORTER, 94th Dist.

REP. GEE, 126th Dist.

REP. MICHEL, 146th Dist.

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF THE FOOD ACCESS  
ADVOCATE.**

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

- 1 That the general statutes be amended to establish, within the
- 2 executive branch, the Office of the Food Access Advocate, whose work
- 3 shall include but not be limited to: (1) Coordinating outreach for food
- 4 insecurity programs, including, but not limited to, developing new
- 5 initiatives and outreach campaigns and identifying best practices to
- 6 increase enrollment in the state's food insecurity programs; (2)
- 7 providing support to the 2-1-1 Infoline program as the state's twenty-
- 8 four hour toll-free hunger hot line to assist in making information about
- 9 the state's food insecurity programs as widely available as possible; (3)
- 10 creating, supporting and monitoring a census of current food insecurity
- 11 throughout the state on a town-by-town level; (4) supporting grant
- 12 application processes related to food insecurity for in-state providers
- 13 and state departments; (5) coordinating communication with and

14 between food banks, food rescue organizations, nonprofits,  
15 supermarkets and groups that work with the facilitation of food  
16 donations; (6) establishing best practices for food banks to reduce food  
17 waste and to distribute more fresh produce and proteins to food  
18 insecurity programs and food banks; and (7) collaborating with research  
19 organizations and universities to monitor research on areas that are  
20 underserved by current food insecurity programs.

***Statement of Purpose:***

To coordinate state and private nonprofit efforts to ameliorate food insecurity.