

My name is Jennifer Nataly Alverdi and I am a 10th grader at Blackstone Academy Charter School in Pawtucket RI and a member of Young Voices in Providence RI, I am writing this letter in support of bill H7400 because I really think all schools should have good and healthy food. We need to think about the families who don't have food or not enough money to buy food. We need to think about students who are insecure and can't get good school food. It has been shown time and time again that students' concentration, memory, mood, and motor skills can all be impacted negatively when student's lack food. All that could be associated with low grades, absenteeism and or tardiness. How can you expect us to want to come to school when we can't even be here without feeling hangry and exhausted. In my own experience at school with being able to get free food isn't the best. There are so many times where I can't even get food because there no more of anything no matter what lunch I would have. Other times the food isn't even fully cooked right or the meat is still pink and in most cases, some parts are still raw?! The portion size is to small. When chicken nuggets are served they only give you four nuggets it's not enough to fill you up and if they run out they barely have alternatives and when they do it's cold. In some religions and cultures, kids can't eat the meat given and there aren't enough or good alternatives to fill students up so they go the whole school day without any food which affects so much to their learning and moods and the school doesn't do anything about. The school lunch also makes kids in school either feel sick or get sick, which shows something is wrong with the food itself. All schools don't ever have lactose alternatives for milk or other dairy products