



State of Rhode Island
Lieutenant Governor Sabina Matos

March 10, 2026

Senator Melissa Murray
Chair, Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
82 Smith St, Senate Lounge
Providence, RI 02903

Re: Letter of Support for SB2892: An Act Relating To Health And Safety -- Food-As-Medicine Pilot Program

Dear Senator Murray:

I write to you in support for each SB2892: An Act Relating To Health And Safety -- Food-As-Medicine Pilot Program. This year, our office has reintroduced the Fair Price Grocery Agenda, a series of bills designed to protect consumers from rising grocery prices. But lowering the cost of groceries is more than just a consumer protection practice. Access to high quality, local, fresh, and nutritious foods make a world of difference when talking about the social determinants of health.

Increasingly, advocates in both the food and medical communities have begun to champion the notion of Food as Medicine—that is, the idea that medically-tailored meals and nutrition supports can improve health outcomes, reduce disparities, and lower healthcare costs for certain populations, as noted in the bill. A study published in *Advances in Nutrition* found that “dietary interventions can help to prevent and treat many diseases, including cardiovascular disease, cancers, type 2 diabetes, and obesity.” As elected officials, we must use every tool we have access to in order to center the health and wellness of our constituents. Food as Medicine represents an exciting opportunity to do just that.

For these reasons and many more, I urge you to favorably vote this bill out of committee.

Sincerely,

Sabina Matos

Rhode Island Lieutenant Governor