



235 Promenade Street, Suite 455  
Providence, RI 02908  
401.274.1771  
[info@rihca.org](mailto:info@rihca.org)  
[www.rihca.org](http://www.rihca.org)

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Rhode Island General Assembly, State Senate  
Senate Health and Human Services Committee  
(Submitted electronically via [SLegislation@rilegislature.gov](mailto:SLegislation@rilegislature.gov))

Re: Support for Senate Bill 2892

Dear Chairperson Murray and Members of the Committee:

Please accept the Rhode Island Health Center Association's letter of **support** for **Senate Bill 2892**, which would establish the Food as Medicine pilot program and Task Force.

Rhode Island's eight community health centers combined serve over 220,000 individuals; nearly 58% of patients are at or below 100% of the Federal Poverty Level; 10% are uninsured, and 51% are enrolled in Medicaid. Evidence-based food-as-medicine programs can serve a vital role in improving health outcomes. However, many health center patients experience food insecurity and lack of access to affordable, nutritious food. Integrating nutrition into healthcare can address food insecurity, support healthier outcomes, and lower healthcare costs by reducing the need for specialty and emergency care.

The proposed Food-as-Medicine Task Force will play a key role in the pilot program. We would ask that the Task Force composition be amended to include representation from community health centers, given their direct knowledge, experience, and understanding of the communities and patient populations most likely to be affected by the program.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

*M Campbell*

Melissa Campbell  
Policy Manager