



## Email and Phone Call Advocacy Templates for The Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP)

*This call to action is live from January 2025 through June 2025.*

**Background and Directions:** The Food Bank Coalition of MA (consisting of the Food Bank of Western MA, the Merrimack Valley Food Bank, the Worcester County Food Bank, and GBFB) is advocating to fund [Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program \(MEFAP\)](#) in the FY26 state budget at \$55.5M. We need your help in advocating with your State Senator, State Representative, and the Healey-Driscoll administration to protect and strengthen MEFAP funding.

The Greater Boston Food Bank (GBFB) has developed this advocacy resource with suggested messaging for advocates to use in email and phone call correspondence to their legislators and Governor Healey.

Feel free to use the suggested messaging in your outreach or make it your own! Find your State Representative and State Senator [here](#).

### Email Templates

#### **To Legislators:**

**To:** your State Senator or State Representative's email address. A separate email to each is advised.

**CC:** (optional) [kadams@gbfb.org](mailto:kadams@gbfb.org) (Kate Adams, Sr. Public Policy Manager at GBFB).

**Subject:** \$55.5 for MEFAP in FY26 state budget

Dear [Senator/ Representative \_\_\_\_],

My name is [your name] and I am a resident of [town or city name]. I am writing to ask you to include in your FY26 budget priorities \$55.5M for the [Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program \(MEFAP\)](#).

With [1 in 3](#) neighbors in our state facing food insecurity at some point in 2023, I urge you to ensure that MEFAP is adequately funded so the food banks can continue to provide food to those in need.

Statewide, food pantry usage increased by nearly 79% between 2020 and 2023, while MEFAP funding grew by 38% during the same period. Moreover, MEFAP is a critical economic stimulus, as more than half of MEFAP funding supports food producers and farmers in Massachusetts.

**[optional: insert a sentence about why MEFAP matters to you and your community.]**

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

**[Your Name]**

### **To the Healey-Driscoll Administration:**

**To:** [Kate.R.Cook@mass.gov](mailto:Kate.R.Cook@mass.gov); [Gabe.Viator@mass.gov](mailto:Gabe.Viator@mass.gov) (these are two senior staffers in the Administration)

**CC:** (optional) [kadams@gbfb.org](mailto:kadams@gbfb.org) (Kate Adams, Sr. Public Policy Manager at GBFB).

**Subject: Thank you for MEFAP funding**

Dear **Governor Healey and Lt. Governor Driscoll,**

My name is **[your name]** and I am a resident of **[town or city name]**. **I am writing to thank you for including strong funding for the [Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program \(MEFAP\)](#) in your House 1 budget.**

With [1 in 3](#) neighbors in our state facing food insecurity at some point in 2023, strong MEFAP funding is critically needed to continue to provide nourishing food to those in need. As you know, MEFAP is an economic stimulus, as more than half of MEFAP funding supports food producers and farmers in Massachusetts. **[optional: insert a sentence about why MEFAP matters to you and your community.]**

Given the persistent demand across the state's network of community food assistance providers, The Greater Boston Food Bank and its sister food banks will be advocating for increased MEFAP funding in the legislature (\$55.5M) this spring.

Thank you for your consistent commitment to the challenge of food insecurity.

**[Your Name]**

## Phone Call Script

### To Legislators:

My name is [name] and I'm from [organization and/or city]. I'm calling to ask Representative/Senator \_\_\_\_\_ to include \$55.5M for the Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program (MEFAP) in their FY26 budget priorities. MEFAP provides nourishing food to people facing food insecurity in every district in Massachusetts. Statewide, food pantry usage increased by nearly 79% between 2020 and 2023, while MEFAP funding grew by 38% during the same period. Additionally, MEFAP is a critical local stimulus, as more than half of MEFAP funding supports food producers and farmers in the Commonwealth. Thank you for your time.

### To the Healey-Driscoll Administration:

My name is [your name] and I am a resident of [town or city name]. I am calling to thank **Governor Healey and Lieutenant Governor Driscoll for including strong funding for the [Massachusetts Emergency Food Assistance Program \(MEFAP\)](#) in the House 1 budget.**

With [1 in 3](#) neighbors in our state facing food insecurity at some point in 2023, strong MEFAP funding is critically needed to continue to provide nourishing food to those in need. As you know, MEFAP is an economic stimulus, as more than half of MEFAP funding supports food producers and farmers in Massachusetts. Given the persistent demand across the state's network of community food assistance providers, The Greater Boston Food Bank and its sister food banks will be advocating for increased MEFAP funding in the legislature (\$55.5M) this spring. Thank you for your consistent commitment to food security.