



City of Cambridge

IN CITY COUNCIL

VICE MAYOR ALICE WOLF

FEBRUARY 27, 1989

- WHEREAS: It is a national disgrace that infants, children, and pregnant women go hungry in this wealthy country and that other people are under-nourished and hungry as well; and
- WHEREAS: Here in the City of Cambridge, providers testified at our Human Service Block Grant hearing, food pantries are having a hard time keeping up with the increased needs of food for Cambridge children and families; and
- WHEREAS: Two pieces of State legislation aimed at correcting hunger in our State are coming before Legislative Committees soon; and
- WHEREAS: This legislation has been sponsored by our State Senator Barrett and Representative Vellucci, will be heard soon at Legislative hearings, and is supported by the Cambridge Food Pantry Network, CEOC; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record as supporting An Act to Improve Maternal and Child Health/WIC (H1896/S515) that will be heard by the Legislative Health Care Committee on March 6, 1989; and further be it
- RESOLVED: That the City Council go on record as supporting An Act treating the Nutrition Outreach and Public Education Program (H 3254/S 648) that will be heard before the Legislative's Human Services Committee on March 20;; and further be it
- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk send communications expressing the City Council's support to the Committees in time for these hearings and that copies go to our entire Legislative delegations; and further be it
- RESOLVED: That the City Manager be put on notice that human travail, such as (but not limited to) hunger in our City must be taken into account in the City's Human Service Budget not withstanding the "budget crunch" that is ahead.

The Cambridge Food Pantry Network/C.E.O.C.

11 Inman Street Cambridge, MA 02139 (617) 868-2900

February 1, 1989

STATE LEGISLATION/BUDGET ISSUES INCLUDED IN THE CAMBRIDGE FOOD PANTRY NETWORK'S "FEED THE CHILDREN" CAMPAIGN FOR 1989 - 1990

1.) AN ACT TO IMPROVE MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH/WIC (H. 1896/S. 515)

Hearing Date: March 6, 11AM, Room B-2 *oral/written* Com. Hec: *Health Care*

Sponsors: Senators Edward Burke, Salvatore Albano, Carol Amick, Michael Barrett, Michael LoPresti, Fredrick Berry, John Houston, John Olver, etc.
Representatives Sherwood Guernsey, Gloria Fox, Barbara Gray, Susan Schur, Peter Vellucci, John Bartley, Mark Roosevelt, William Nagle, John McDonough
(For a complete listing of sponsors, contact the Network)

Need For the Bill: Over 22,000 families each month are in need of emergency food. By definition women and children living in poverty are at risk of being under-nourished and at risk of having high rates of infant mortality and poor pregnancy outcomes. Despite the cost effectiveness of the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) in reducing infant mortality and improving a child's opportunity for growth and development, only 48% of the eligible women, infant and children in Massachusetts receive WIC services. The rest are turned away due to insufficient funding.

What This Bill Will Do: This bill set a goal that by 1992, all women, infants and children who are financially and medically eligible for WIC will be entitled to receive WIC benefits.

2.) AN ACT CREATING THE NUTRITION OUTREACH AND PUBLIC EDUCATION PROGRAM (H. 3254/S. 648)

Hearing Date: March 20, *about 2:00 - oral/written* Com. Hec: *Human Services*

Sponsors: Senators Nicholas Costello, Salvatore Albano, Michael Barrett, John Houston
Representatives Peter Vellucci, John McDonough, Mark Roosevelt, Paul Kollios
(For a complete listing of sponsors, contact the Network)

Need For the Bill: A significant portion of Massachusetts residents who are eligible for state and federal food programs (Food Stamps, School Meals, WIC, etc.) do not receive these benefits, primarily due to a lack of adequate information as to program eligibility and application procedures. In many cases the persons most affected are those most in need: children, the homeless, the working poor and the elderly.

What This Bill Will Do: This bill will increase the availability of and participation in federal and state food assistance programs such as: Food Stamps, School Breakfast and Lunch, WIC, Summer Feeding and Elderly Feeding Programs through the establishment of a coordinated, community-based nutrition outreach program. Community groups would be able to work with existing networks to improve the nutritional status of their communities by providing information on program eligibility, assisting with applications and conducting trainings in the community.



Working
Together
for
Bread
and
Justice

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City of Cambridge

VICE-MAYOR WOLF

7.

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- WHEREAS: This legislation has been sponsored by our State Senator Barrett and Representative Vellucci, will be heard soon at Legislative hearings, and is supported by the Cambridge Food Pantry Network, CEOC; now therefore be it
- RESOLVED: That the Cambridge City Council go on record as supporting An Act to Improve Maternal and Child Health/WIC (H1896/S515) that will be heard by the Legislative Health Care Committee on March 6, 1989; and further be it
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- RESOLVED: That the City Clerk send communications expressing the City Council's support to the Committees in time for these hearings and that copies go to our entire Legislative delegations; and further be it
- RESOLVED: That the City Manager be put on notice that human travail, such as (but not limited to) hunger in our City must be taken into account in the City's Human Service Budget not withstanding the "budget crunch" that is ahead.

In City Council February 27, 1989.

Adopted by the affirmative vote of 7 members.

Attest:- Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk.

A true copy

ATTEST:-

Joseph E. Connarton, City Clerk,

VM Wolf re: resolutions that the City Council go on record supporting both "An Act to Improve Maternal and Child Health/WIC" (H.1896/S.515) & "An Act Treating the Nutritional Outreach and Public Education Program" (#3254/S.648) & further, that the City Manager be put on notice that human travail must be taken into account in the City's Human Service Budget, notwithstanding the budget crunch.

In City Council,

February 27, 1989

227-89

Order Adopted

14
7