**How to Identify your Representative**

         If you’re not sure who your state Representative is, go to [https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator](https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

         If you need to find your Representative’s contact info, visit [https://malegislature.gov/Legislators/Members/House](https://malegislature.gov/Legislators/Members/House%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

         If you serve a region and need help identifying all the Representatives in your area, please email Andrea Freeman (afreeman@mapublichealth.org) and she can assist you.

**Sample Phone Script**

Ask to speak to a legislative aide for your Representative.

         *Hello, my name is*[Your Name].*I am a constituent from*[Your Town].–OR—*I work for*[Your Organization]*and we serve many residents in the Representative’s district.*

         *I am calling to ask the Rep. to please co-sponsor****Amendments #24, #31, and #34****to continue the work of the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund, the MA Food Trust, and to close the SNAP Gap*

         *It’s important that we get these amendments into the budget because funding because…*

o   *The Prevention Trust will sunset in June 2017 without legislative action, and all of its good work of PWTF will be dismantled. PWTF does not require any state funding; it is supported by a very small assessment on health insurers.*

o   *The MA Food Trust will increase access to healthy affordable foods in low-income neighborhoods and create local jobs.*

o   *More than 680,000 MA residents likely eligible for SNAP aren’t receiving benefits.*

         *Can we count on the Representative’s support?*

         *Thank you very much for your time.*

**Sample Email Script**

Dear [Your Representative’s Name]:

My name is [Your Name]. I am a constituent from [Your Town]. *–OR—* I work for [Your Organization] and we serve many residents in the Representative’s district. **I am writing to ask you to please co-sponsor these budget amendments:**

A.      **Amendment #24  - This will continue the work of the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund (PWTF).**It’s important that we get this amendment into the budget because funding for PWTF will sunset in June 2017 without legislative action, and all of the good work of PWTF will be dismantled. **PWTF does not require any state funding**; it is supported by a very small assessment on health insurers. You can learn more about PWTF and see a complete list of supporters on the fact sheet [here.](https://actionforahealthymass.files.wordpress.com/2017/04/amendment-24-prevention-trust-house-budget-amendment.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

B.      **Amendment #35** **-  To support the** **Massachusetts Food Trust program**. It’s important that we get the Massachusetts Food Trust amendment included because these funds help support a staff person to administer and implement the program that will increase access to healthy affordable foods in low-income neighborhoods. [Here’s a fact sheet.](https://actionforahealthymass.files.wordpress.com/2016/02/mpha_foodtrust_factsheet_2016-8-91.pdf%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank)

C.      **Amendment #31** - **To** **close the SNAP Gap and create a common application portal.**It’s important that we get this included because there are more than 680,000 MA residents likely eligible for SNAP, but aren’t receiving benefits; this amendment will help to close that gap.[Here’s a fact sheet](https://mapublichealth.org/priorities/access-to-healthy-affordable-food/snap/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) as well as a [link to show how many people in your district](https://public.tableau.com/profile/food.bank.of.western.ma%22%20%5Cl%20%22%21/vizhome/MHandSNAP/Story1%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) this impacts.

Thank you for considering my requests; I hope I can count on your support for these amendments.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

[Organization]- optional

[Contact Info]