

## Write/Call your legislators

Request they cosponsor this Legislation

To find your legislators, go to:

[Malegislature.gov/search/FindMyLegislator](http://Malegislature.gov/search/FindMyLegislator)

Either type your street address, or enlarge the map to locate your residence. The names of your Senator and your Representative will appear.

Clicking on the name will bring up their email address, their address at the State House. And their /State House phone number

What should I say ...?

⇒ Simply ask your respective Legislator(s) to support and cosponsor this important bill

⇒ Explain that you have friends, family and loved ones who are incarcerated, and share what you have heard about the conditions involving food health, as well as waste of taxpayer money.

⇒ Please ask those you know to also call and write asking for change.

FN 1 Public Records Request: Swill Reports for MCI-Norfolk

FN 2 Haas, Gordon. "MA-DOC Expenditures and Staffing Levels for Fiscal 2024" accessed at: [realcostofprison.org/writing](http://realcostofprison.org/writing)

FN 3 See: [MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com](http://MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com) "Articles"

FN 4 See: [MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com](http://MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com) "Labels"

FN 5 See: [MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com](http://MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com) "Department of Health"

FN 6 See: [MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com](http://MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com) "Articles" & "F.S.D. Minutes"

### NorfolkWhistleBlower

**A site, currently under construction, run and maintained by Advocates and loved ones of those incarcerated being subjected to inhumane conditions. Please share the existence of this site and feel free to express your stories and knowledge.**

May 2025

## An Act To Improve Food Safety and Quality in Department of Correction Facilities

HB-4125

Introduced 5/12/2025

By

Rep. Erika Uyterhoeven

(27th Middlesex)

**Full text available at:**

[Malegislature.gov/Bills](http://Malegislature.gov/Bills)

[MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com](http://MCINorfolkWhistleBlower.com)

An Act to Improve Food Safety  
and Quality in Department of  
Correction Facilities

**HB-4125**

This bill was introduced on May 12, 2025 by State Representative Erika Uytterhoeven (27th Middlesex) and cosponsored by State Representative Christopher J. Worrell (5th Suffolk).

What this bill hopes to accomplish:

- ⇒ Identify the exorbitant sources of food waste to identify food that is not consumed (e.g. soy and/or unpalatable products.)
- ⇒ Create a safe environment conducive to proper training and providing **incarcerated individuals (I/I)** with tools, and culinary certificates needed to prepare them for re-entry.
- ⇒ Auditing purchases from the "Inmate Food Account" to prevent misuse by Food Services, and to ensure that only dietitian approved foods are ordered.
- ⇒ Prevent Food Services from using foods intended for I/I to feed staff at no cost in violation of 103 DOC 214.01
- ⇒ Lower the \$212,259,576 spent on I/I Health Care, while more efficiently utilizing the \$18,591,977 spent on food to feed the I/I population.

**Facts About the Department  
of Correction Food Services**

For every pound of food prepared and served at MCI-Norfolk over 1/2 a pound per I/I is thrown away. In FY 2024 **928,760 pounds** of food was thrown away and \$1,475 a month is paid to a pig farmer to pick up food waste **FN 1.**

In FY 2024, \$18,591,977 was spent to feed I/I population while a whopping **\$212,259,576** was spent on I/I Health Care. When low quality, ill prepared and inedible foods are served to I/I their only option is to resort to commissary purchases which mostly consists of ultra-processed and high sodium foods **FN 2.**

There is a **disproportionate percentage** of chronic diseases exacerbated by diet among the I/I population as opposed to those in society **FN 3.**

Though the Food Services Policy [103 DOC 760] mandates that only dietitian approved Menus and corresponding recipes are required to be followed (See nutritional breakdown of menus, i.e., "Spreadsheets") - **They Are Not.** Food Services routinely substitutes dietitian approved items such as beef, turkey, cakes eggs, etc.; these substitutions most often contain as much as **10 times as much sodium** as what is specified in the "Spreadsheets" **FN 4.**

MCI-Norfolk Mainline Kitchen has some of the most deplorable working condition [in the DOC] and repeated Department of Health Violation for **rodent droppings and infestations, sanitary infractions, filth, leaking pipes over food and kettles, and lacking in oversight and training** **FN 5.**

National average of 87% of the I/I population will eventually be released from prison [MA. is lower than the national average]. I/Is in Massachusetts are being released with a high percentage of diet related diseases; diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, and obesity **causing a further burden on society and tax payers** who will have to foot these medical bills after release. Food services are being allowed to purchase discounted unhealthy foods, not approved by dietitians known as "convenience" or "opportunities purchases." **FN 6**