



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contacts:

Stephen Clark
Massachusetts Restaurant Association
P. (508) 573-4189
E. sclark@themassrest.org

JP Faiella
IUC PR
P. 617.504.7585
E. jp@iucboston.com

Lily Gribbel
IUC PR
P. 925.321.2494
E. lily@iucboston.com

**Massachusetts Restaurant Association Releases Survey Results Showing
Massachusetts Servers and Bartenders Overwhelmingly Opposed to Ballot Question
Proposal that Would Eliminate Tip Credit and Mandate Sharing of Tips.**

(BOSTON, MA) [March 11, 2024] – [The Massachusetts Restaurant Association \(MRA\)](#) today released the results of a new survey showing that Massachusetts servers, bartenders, and other tipped employees are vehemently opposed to a proposed ballot question that would eliminate Massachusetts' tip credit and tip sharing rules.

Out-of-state activists are aggressively pursuing a 2024 ballot question in Massachusetts after their proposal has failed for years in the Legislature. Today, servers are pushing back on this extreme proposal that will hurt tipped employees in the Bay State.

An online survey of 351 tipped employees currently working at full-service restaurants in Massachusetts was conducted by national research and consulting firm [CorCom Inc.](#) in February 2024. Respondents come from across Massachusetts, and vary in experience, age, demographic, but their responses are uniform: the ballot question is opposed across the board.

The results of the survey indicated:

1. 86% think the current tipping system works for them.
2. 90% believe that if tipped wages are eliminated, tipped employees will earn less.
3. 88% oppose a mandatory tip pool where tips are shared with the kitchen and other non-service staff.

4. 91% say they prefer the current system, with a lower base wage and tips that provide the ability to earn more than the minimum wage.
5. 56% of respondents report earning more than \$30.00/per hour.

“Servers and bartenders have made it abundantly clear that they are opposed to any proposal that is going to take hard earned tips out of their pockets. Tipped employees have paid mortgages, educated children and built their livelihoods on tips; and they don't want those tips messed with. said Stephen Clark, President and CEO, Massachusetts Restaurant Association

The MRA has long advocated that this proposal will lower wages and increase costs for diners. A true lose-lose for the restaurants. *“The results of the survey speak for themselves.....and tipped employees have made it known that they do not support the ideas brought forth by out of state activists,”* -Clark added.

Full Survey can be found here: [Massachusetts Server Survey](#)

About Massachusetts Restaurant Association:

Founded in 1934, the Massachusetts Restaurant Association is a trusted not-for-profit association committed to the advancement of the foodservice industry in the state of Massachusetts. The MRA exists to help food and beverage providers succeed through education, cost-savings programs, networking and government advocacy. Together with the Massachusetts Restaurant Association Education Foundation, the MRA works to promote current and future industry leaders. Learn more at <http://www.themasrest.org/>.

###