

**SENATE . . . . . No. 905**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Michael J. Barrett***

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*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to eliminate the public counsel fee.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Michael J. Barrett*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Third Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 905**

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By Mr. Barrett, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 905) of Michael J. Barrett for legislation to eliminate the public counsel fee. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 911 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
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An Act to eliminate the public counsel fee.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Subsection (f) of section 2A of chapter 211D of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by striking out in the first two sentences, each time it appears, the figure “\$150” and  
3 inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- \$100.

4           SECTION 2. Said subsection (f) of said section 2A of said chapter 211D is hereby further  
5 amended by striking out in the first two sentences, each time it appears, the figure “\$100” and  
6 inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- \$50.

7           SECTION 3. Said section 2A of said chapter 211D is hereby further amended by striking  
8 out subsection (f), and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

9           (f) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, no person determined to  
10 be indigent shall be assessed a counsel fee.

11 SECTION 4. Section 1 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.

12 SECTION 5. Section 2 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

13 SECTION 6. Section 3 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2027.