HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 4229 FILED ON: 1/20/2012

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3957

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Demetrius J. Atsalis***

*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 relative to borrowing for and the term and apportionment of betterments and assessments for sewer projects in the Town of Barnstable..

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|---|---|
| *Demetrius J. Atsalis* | *2nd Barnstable* |
| *Cleon H. Turner* | *1st Barnstable* |
| *Randy Hunt* | *5th Barnstable* |

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By Mr. Atsalis of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3957) of Demetrius J. Atsalis, Cleon H. Turner and Randy Hunt (by vote of the town) relative to sewer betterment assessments in the town of Barnstable. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the Year Two Thousand Twelve**

An Act relative to borrowing for and the term and apportionment of betterments and assessments for sewer projects in the Town of Barnstable..

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

Section 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the following procedures shall apply in the Town of Barnstable to assessments pursuant to chapters 80 or 83 of the General Laws for making and repairing sewers within the Town of Barnstable.

(a) At any time before the completion by the assessors of the valuation list for the year in which assessments for making and repairing sewers will first appear on the annual tax bill, the board of assessors may, and at the request of the owner of the land assessed shall, apportion all such assessments or unpaid balances thereof into such number of equal portions, not exceeding thirty years or the useful life of the main drains and common sewers as approved by the department of environmental protection, whichever is less, as is determined by said board or as is requested by the owner of land, but no one of such portions shall be less than five dollars.

11 (b) Assessments made in accordance with subsection (a) may be determined by the board
12 of assessors so that the principle and interest combined for each portion of all assessments and
13 unpaid balances shall be as nearly equal as practicable.

14 (c) The annual portion adopted by the board of assessors pursuant to subsection (a) shall
15 be billed and collected at the election of the town on quarterly, semi-annual or a single-tax bill or
16 bills, as the board of assessors shall determine.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage and apply to all betterments and
18 assessments made after April 7, 2011.