

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1002**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Steven A. Baddour***

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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 relative to the funding of home rule procedures.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Steven A. Baddour*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1002**

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By Mr. Baddour, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1002) of Baddour for legislation to fund home rule procedures [Joint Committee on Municipalities and Regional Government].

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act relative to the funding of home rule procedures.

*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. Chapter 43B of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section  
2   8(b), as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following  
3   section:-

4           (b) Each city or town shall provide its charter commission, free of charge, with suitable  
5   office space and with reasonable access to other facilities for holding public hearings, may  
6   contribute clerical and other assistance to such commission, and shall permit it to consult with  
7   and obtain advice and information from city or town officers and employees during ordinary  
8   working hours. Within twenty days after the election of a charter commission, the city or town  
9   treasurer shall credit to the account of the charter commission, with or without appropriation, the  
10   sum of two thousand dollars in a town of less than twelve thousand inhabitants, the sum of five  
11   thousand dollars in a city or town of twelve thousand or more but less than fifty thousand  
12   inhabitants, the sum of seven thousand five hundred dollars in a city or town of fifty thousand or  
13   more but less than one hundred thousand inhabitants and the sum of ten thousand dollars in any

14 other city or town. The city or town treasurer shall also credit to the account of the charter  
15 commission, with or without appropriation, amounts equal to fulfill the requirements of Section  
16 9(b) and Section 11. Such sums shall be provided by taxation in the manner set forth in section  
17 twenty-three of chapter fifty-nine if payment is made prior to the fixing of the annual tax rate,  
18 and otherwise shall be provided by transfer by the treasurer from available funds or by  
19 borrowing in the manner and for the period provided in the case of final judgments under clause  
20 (11) of section seven of chapter forty-four, and subject to all other applicable provisions of said  
21 chapter forty-four except that such borrowing may be authorized by the city treasurer and city  
22 manager, if any, otherwise the mayor of the city and by the town treasurer and board of  
23 selectmen of a town. A city or town may appropriate such additional funds for its charter  
24 commission as is deemed necessary. Any unexpended funds shall be returned to the city or town  
25 within fourteen days of the charter commission's submission to the voters.