

HOUSE No. 1442

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act relative to the alleviation of costs incurred while housing prisoners in the Commonwealth. . .

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. Section 1 of chapter 124 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following new subsection:—

3 (v) adopt policies and procedures, in consultation with the county sheriffs, establishing
4 an optional fee, of a maximum of \$5, to be paid by inmates for daily room and board at any
5 county or state correctional facility. Based on an inmate's ability to pay, the commissioner or a
6 county sheriff may charge each inmate a reasonable daily room and board fee on a sliding scale.
7 The commissioner of corrections may deduct such fee from the inmate's account as provided for
8 in section 48A of chapter 127. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, room and board shall
9 not be denied if the inmate is incapable of paying the daily room and board fee.