The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Linda Dean Campbell

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 Veterans Property Tax Abatement.

PETITION OF:

NAME: Linda Dean Campbell  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 15th Essex
NAME: Bradley H. Jones, Jr.  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 20th Middlesex
NAME: James J. Dwyer  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 30th Middlesex
NAME: Mathew Muratore  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 1st Plymouth
NAME: Diana DiZoglio  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 14th Essex
NAME: Chris Walsh  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 6th Middlesex
NAME: Leah Cole  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 12th Essex
NAME: Tricia Farley-Bouvier  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 3rd Berkshire
NAME: Angelo M. Scaccia  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 14th Suffolk
NAME: James R. Miceli  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 19th Middlesex
NAME: Walter F. Timilty  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 7th Norfolk
NAME: Michael O. Moore  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: Second Worcester
NAME: James B. Eldridge  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: Middlesex and Worcester
NAME: Richard J. Ross  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex
NAME: David T. Vieira  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 3rd Barnstable
NAME: Frank A. Moran  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 17th Essex
NAME: Marjorie C. Decker  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 25th Middlesex
NAME: Patricia A. Haddad  DISTRICT/ADDRESS: 5th Bristol
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>District</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bruce E. Tarr</td>
<td>First Essex and Middlesex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jeffrey N. Roy</td>
<td>10th Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Arciero</td>
<td>2nd Middlesex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danielle W. Gregoire</td>
<td>4th Middlesex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sal N. DiDomenico</td>
<td>Middlesex and Suffolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David F. DeCoste</td>
<td>5th Plymouth</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
An Act Relative to Veterans Property Tax Abatement.

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

Chapter 59 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 95. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

“Dependent”, the wife, husband, widow, widower, child, mother or father of a veteran, including a person who stood in the relationship of a parent to the veteran for the 5 years preceding the commencement of the veteran’s wartime service; provided, however, that no child of a veteran who is more than 18 years of age shall be considered a dependent unless the child is attending school to complete a high school course or its equivalent or unless the child is mentally or physically unable to be financially independent and the child’s disability existed before the child attained that age or unless the child is younger than 23 years of age and is a full-time student at an educational institution which maintains a regular faculty and curriculum and has a
regularly organized body of students in attendance at the place where its educational activities
are carried on.

“Dwelling unit”, any house or building or portion of a house or building that is occupied,
designed to be occupied or is rented, leased or hired out to be occupied as a home or residence of
1 or more persons.

“Landlord”, the owner, lessor or sublessor of a dwelling unit.

“Veteran”, a veteran as defined in clause Forty-third of section 7 of chapter 4.

(b) At the option of the board of selectmen of a town or the town council in a
municipality having a town council form of government or the mayor with the approval of the
city council in a city, a landlord who leases a dwelling unit to a veteran or a dependent of a
veteran who receives veterans’ benefits pursuant to chapter 115 at a reduced rate of $200 per
month below fair market value may be eligible for an annual tax rebate of $3000 and the
occupant of the dwelling may qualify for the low-income home energy assistance program or its
successor program.

(c) At the option of the board of selectmen of a town or the town council in a
municipality having a town council form of government or the mayor with the approval of the
city council in a city, residential real property owned by a veteran who has a service-connected
disability may qualify for an exemption of $400.