HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2295 FILED ON: 1/19/2017

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2077

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James J. O'Day

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 assisting elders and people with disabilities in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
James J. O'Day	*14th Worcester*	*1/19/2017*
Brian M. Ashe	*2nd Hampden*	*1/31/2017*
Cory Atkins	*14th Middlesex*	*1/30/2017*
Christine P. Barber	*34th Middlesex*	*1/31/2017*
William N. Brownsberger	*Second Suffolk and Middlesex*	*2/3/2017*
Daniel Cahill	*10th Essex*	*1/30/2017*
Gerard Cassidy	*9th Plymouth*	*2/1/2017*
Sonia Chang-Diaz	*Second Suffolk*	*2/3/2017*
Nick Collins	*4th Suffolk*	*2/2/2017*
Mike Connolly	*26th Middlesex*	*2/3/2017*
Marjorie C. Decker	*25th Middlesex*	*2/3/2017*
Sal N. DiDomenico	*Middlesex and Suffolk*	*1/26/2017*
Daniel M. Donahue	*16th Worcester*	*1/27/2017*
Michelle M. DuBois	*10th Plymouth*	*1/30/2017*
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*	*1/26/2017*
Sean Garballey	*23rd Middlesex*	*2/3/2017*
Kenneth I. Gordon	*21st Middlesex*	*1/31/2017*
Danielle W. Gregoire	*4th Middlesex*	*1/26/2017*

Patricia A. Haddad	*5th Bristol*	*2/2/2017*
Jonathan Hecht	*29th Middlesex*	*1/30/2017*
Paul R. Heroux	*2nd Bristol*	*2/2/2017*
Daniel J. Hunt	*13th Suffolk*	*2/2/2017*
Patricia D. Jehlen	*Second Middlesex*	*1/26/2017*
Louis L. Kafka	*8th Norfolk*	*1/30/2017*
Mary S. Keefe	*15th Worcester*	*2/2/2017*
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*	*1/27/2017*
John J. Lawn, Jr.	*10th Middlesex*	*1/31/2017*
Jason M. Lewis	*Fifth Middlesex*	*2/2/2017*
David Paul Linsky	*5th Middlesex*	*1/31/2017*
Barbara A. L'Italien	*Second Essex and Middlesex*	*1/25/2017*
Jay D. Livingstone	*8th Suffolk*	*2/2/2017*
Joan B. Lovely	*Second Essex*	*2/2/2017*
John J. Mahoney	*13th Worcester*	*2/2/2017*
Elizabeth A. Malia	*11th Suffolk*	*2/3/2017*
Thomas M. McGee	*Third Essex*	*1/30/2017*
Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.	*28th Middlesex*	*1/26/2017*
Michael O. Moore	*Second Worcester*	*2/2/2017*
Marc R. Pacheco	*First Plymouth and Bristol*	*2/3/2017*
Denise Provost	*27th Middlesex*	*1/24/2017*
David M. Rogers	*24th Middlesex*	*2/3/2017*
John H. Rogers	*12th Norfolk*	*1/24/2017*
Frank I. Smizik	*15th Norfolk*	*1/26/2017*
Thomas M. Stanley	*9th Middlesex*	*2/3/2017*
José F. Tosado	*9th Hampden*	*2/2/2017*
Steven Ultrino	*33rd Middlesex*	*1/30/2017*
Aaron Vega	*5th Hampden*	*2/2/2017*
Chris Walsh	*6th Middlesex*	*2/2/2017*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 2077

By Mr. O'Day of West Boylston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2077) of James J. O'Day and others for legislation to provide emergency aid to certain elderly and disabled residents. Elder Affairs.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. *529* OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)

An Act relative to assisting elders and people with disabilities 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:

SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 117A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-Any homeless person, (i) who has no established place of abode, or who lives in a temporary emergency shelter, and (ii) who is otherwise eligible under the provisions of this chapter, shall receive the same payment rate as recipients who incur shelter costs including, but not limited to rent or a mortgage. The department shall promulgate or revise any such rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.

SECTION 2. Chapter 117A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 10 the following new section:- Section 11. Effective July first of every year the department shall increase the total budget of each eligible recipient, before taking into

consideration any available income and resources, by a percentage amount equal to the percentage rise in the United States Consumer Price Index for January first of that year over the level of said index for January first of the previous year plus such additional percentage amount as is recommended annually by the department and appropriated by the general court. The department shall promulgate such rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

SECTION 3. Chapter 117A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 10 the following new section: Section 12. The combined assets of an assistance unit may not exceed $2,500. In determining countable assets, the department shall exclude the first $15,000 in fair market value of a vehicle; provided that the commissioner may grant a waiver for a vehicle with a market value in excess of $15,000 if the commissioner determines the vehicle is necessary for employment or because of other household circumstances.

SECTION 4. Chapter 117A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 10 the following new section: Section 13. The department shall set the maximum benefit for the program in this chapter at the same level as the program in chapter 118 of the General Laws. The department shall promulgate such rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section.