

HOUSE No. 4309

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Denise Provost

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 authorizing the city of Somerville to offer an exemption for certain owner occupied residential properties for water and sewer charges and rates.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/1/2018</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/12/2018</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/9/2018</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>3/9/2018</i>

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By Ms. Provost of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4309) of Denise Provost and others (with the approval of the mayor and city council) that the city of Somerville be authorized to offer exemptions for certain owner occupied residential properties for water and sewer charges and rates. Municipalities and Regional Government. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act authorizing the city of Somerville to offer an exemption for certain owner occupied residential properties for water and sewer charges and rates.

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. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, in addition to
2 any reduction in real estate tax liability pursuant to general or special law, the mayor and the
3 board of aldermen of the city of Somerville may establish a program, by ordinance, to allow for
4 an exemption or discount equal to not more than thirty percent on water and sewer charges and
5 rates, applicable to any person who is a taxpayer approved for an exemption for residential real
6 property with respect to a parcel of real property classified as Class One, residential, in the city
7 of Somerville, pursuant to section 5C of chapter 59 of the General Laws or chapter 285 of the
8 acts of 2014; provided, however, that (a) the exemption or discount on water and sewer charges
9 and rates shall be applied only to the principal residence of the taxpayer as used by the taxpayer
10 for income tax purposes; and (b) said program shall be revenue neutral to and within the city of
11 Somerville water and sewer enterprise fund.

12 (b) Any such exemption or discount on water and sewer charges and rates shall be in
13 addition to any other discount, exemption, or abatement to which the person is otherwise
14 eligible.

15 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.