

HOUSE No. 2738

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jack Patrick Lewis

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 providing federal and state budget information to residents of the commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/18/2019</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Paul R. Feeney</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 2738

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2738) of Jack Patrick Lewis and others that the State Treasurer annually mail to resident taxpayers of the Commonwealth information on the federal and state budgets. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act providing federal and state budget information to residents of 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. Chapter 7 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by adding the following new section:-

3 Section 63. The treasurer, in coordination with the secretary of the commonwealth, shall
4 provide a short summary each year to be mailed to Massachusetts resident taxpayers by March
5 15, which reports the total amount of income tax paid by Massachusetts residents to the federal
6 government in the prior year, together with the per cent of those dollars appropriated in the prior
7 year’s Congressional discretionary budget to housing, education, healthcare, public transit,
8 biomedical research, veterans services, food stamps and assistance, environmental protection,
9 and defense spending, including nuclear weapons. The summary shall include this information in
10 the form of a pie chart or bar graph, and using the budget numbers reported by the federal
11 Congressional Budget Office. The summary shall also include information noting that Medicare

12 and Social Security programs are financed as trust funds and are not financed through income
13 taxes.

14 The summary shall also include a report on the commonwealth's annual budget for the
15 prior fiscal year. The report shall communicate the per cent of the budget allocated to housing,
16 education, healthcare, public transit, criminal justice, veterans services, food stamps and
17 assistance, environmental protection, and conservation and recreation. The report shall also
18 include the contribution of federal funds being returned to Massachusetts in those categories.
19 The report shall include this information in the form of a pie chart or bar graph.

20 The information required under this section may be acquired from any nonpartisan, third-
21 party organization that regularly compiles such data; provided further, there may be an
22 agreement with such an organization to produce the report