SENATE No. 67

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joan B. Lovely

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 immediate childcare assistance to homeless families.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
Joan B. Lovely	Second Essex	
Diana DiZoglio	First Essex	1/23/2019
William N. Brownsberger	Second Suffolk and Middlesex	1/23/2019
Patrick M. O'Connor	Plymouth and Norfolk	1/23/2019
James T. Welch	Hampden	1/24/2019
Steven Ultrino	33rd Middlesex	1/25/2019
Joanne M. Comerford	Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester	1/25/2019
Barry R. Finegold	Second Essex and Middlesex	1/25/2019
Nicholas A. Boldyga	3rd Hampden	1/28/2019
Mike Connolly	26th Middlesex	1/29/2019
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex	1/29/2019
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex	1/30/2019
Michael O. Moore	Second Worcester	1/30/2019
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester	1/30/2019
Marcos A. Devers	16th Essex	1/30/2019
Daniel M. Donahue	16th Worcester	1/30/2019
Sal N. DiDomenico	Middlesex and Suffolk	1/31/2019
Joseph D. McKenna	18th Worcester	1/31/2019

Dean A. Tran	Worcester and Middlesex	1/31/2019
Sean Garballey	23rd Middlesex	1/31/2019
Brendan P. Crighton	Third Essex	1/31/2019
David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf	17th Worcester	2/1/2019
Bradford Hill	4th Essex	2/1/2019
Jon Santiago	9th Suffolk	2/1/2019
Julian Cyr	Cape and Islands	2/1/2019
Rebecca L. Rausch	Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex	2/1/2019
James K. Hawkins	2nd Bristol	2/4/2019
Michael J. Barrett	Third Middlesex	2/4/2019
Jason M. Lewis	Fifth Middlesex	2/7/2019
Maria Duaime Robinson	6th Middlesex	2/7/2019
Natalie M. Blais	1st Franklin	10/21/2019

SENATE No. 67

By Ms. Lovely, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 67) of Joan B. Lovely, Diana DiZoglio, William N. Brownsberger, Patrick M. O'Connor and other members of the General Court for legislation to provide immediate childcare assistance to homeless families. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE HOUSE, NO. 4293 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing immediate childcare assistance to homeless families.

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. Chapter 15D of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016 Official
- 2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following section:-
- 3 Section 19. (a) A family placed in temporary emergency assistance shelter and receiving
- 4 TAFDC assistance from the department of transitional assistance shall be eligible for the
- 5 department of early education and care's homeless childcare assistance vouchers when the
- 6 family first arrives at the shelter and at any time the family chooses while residing in the shelter.
- 7 (b) A family receiving TAFDC assistance and living in any type of shelter shall be
- 8 eligible for a full-time childcare referral from the department of transitional assistance.

- 9 (c) A letter verifying shelter residency will qualify a family receiving TAFDC assistance 10 for a full-time childcare referral from the department of transitional assistance.
- SECTION 2. Upon entry to a temporary emergency assistance shelter, domestic violence shelter, substance abuse and recovery shelter or non-emergency assistance shelter, children ages zero to three years old will be screened for development risk factors or delays. Screening standards shall be established in coordination with the department of public health.
- SECTION 3. The department shall adopt regulations or policies for the administration of this act within 90 days of the effective date of this act.