

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

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

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)**
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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:

1 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.

11 SECTION 2. Upon entry to a temporary emergency assistance shelter, domestic violence
12 shelter, substance abuse and recovery shelter or non-emergency assistance shelter, children ages
13 zero to three years old will be screened for development risk factors or delays. Screening
14 standards shall be established in coordination with the department of public health.

15 SECTION 3. The department shall adopt regulations or policies for the administration of
16 this act within 90 days of the effective date of this act.