

SENATE No. 699

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. 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 regarding Medicare savings programs eligibility.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>First Essex</i>	<i>1/18/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>1/18/2019</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/18/2019</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>1/18/2019</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>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>

<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>2/4/2019</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>2/7/2019</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/11/2019</i>

SENATE No. 699

By Mr. Lewis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 699) of Jason M. Lewis, Diana DiZoglio, James B. Eldridge, Michael D. Brady and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to Medicare savings programs eligibility. Health Care Financing.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 640 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act regarding Medicare savings programs eligibility.

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 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 25 the following section:-

3 SECTION 25A. The division shall disregard income in an amount equivalent to sixty-
4 five percent of the federal poverty level, as adjusted annually, in determining eligibility for the
5 Qualified Medicare Beneficiary, Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary and Qualified
6 Individual programs, described in 42 U.S.C. §1396(a)(10)(E) and also known as the Medicare
7 Savings or Medicare Buy-In Programs in accordance with the following schedule or such earlier
8 date as the division determines to be feasible: In the year in which the state plan amendment is
9 approved, the division shall disregard income in an amount equivalent to thirty percent (30%) of
10 the federal poverty level; in the following year, the division shall disregard income in an amount

11 equivalent to forty-five percent (45%) of the federal poverty level; in the following year the
12 division shall disregard income in an amount equivalent to sixty-five percent (65%) of the
13 federal poverty level.

14 The division shall implement a waiting list in any year in which the number of qualified
15 applicants for the Qualified Individual Program exceeds the annual block grant amount for said
16 program. The division shall not apply an asset test in determining eligibility for said Medicare
17 Savings Programs. The division shall submit a state plan amendment to implement this section
18 no later than 30 days after the effective date of this section and subsequently promulgate all
19 regulations necessary to implement said income and asset disregards.