

HOUSE No. 2073

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Josh S. Cutler

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 establishing a behavioral health workforce development trust fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/16/2021</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>John J. Cronin</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>7/28/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 2073

By Mr. Cutler of Pembroke, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2073) of Josh S. Cutler and Brian W. Murray relative to establishing a behavioral health workforce development trust fund. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1704 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act establishing a behavioral health workforce development trust fund.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be
2 established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate fund to be known as the
3 Massachusetts Behavioral Health Workforce Development Trust Fund to which shall be credited
4 any appropriations, bond proceeds or other monies authorized by the general court and
5 specifically designated to be credited thereto, and additional funds, including federal grants or
6 loans or private donations. Any balance in the fund at the close of a fiscal year shall be available
7 for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years and shall not revert to the General Fund.

8 Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended for the purposes of creating and
9 providing a competitive grant system available to mental health services agencies for the clinical
10 supervision of behavioral health providers-in-training pursuing licensure as LMHCs, LICSWs

11 and other MA-level, mandated, licensed behavioral health providers; and to enhance professional
12 development opportunities in the mental health field.

13 SECTION 2. The Massachusetts Behavioral Health Workforce Development Trust Fund
14 shall be comprised of the following: the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health or
15 designee, Commissioner of the Department of Public Health or designee; two representatives
16 each from the Massachusetts Mental Health Counselors Association and the National
17 Association of Social Workers; and one representative each from the Association for Behavioral
18 Health, and the Massachusetts Association of Behavioral Health Systems.