

HOUSE No. 279

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven G. Xiarhos

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 relative to Department of Transitional Assistance benefits.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven G. Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>2/16/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>5/5/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 279

By Mr. Xiarhos of Barnstable, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 279) of Steven G. Xiarhos and others relative to Department of Transitional Assistance benefits during a declared state of emergency. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to Department of Transitional Assistance benefits.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to establish forthwith for greater access to public benefits during a state of emergency, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 118 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 20. If a state of emergency as declared by the governor remains in effect for more
3 than 30 days, no benefit provided pursuant to chapter 151A shall qualify as income for purposes
4 of determining eligibility for benefits provided pursuant to this chapter or chapter 118A until 30
5 days after the termination of the declaration of a state of emergency.