

SENATE No. 2242

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Julian Cyr

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 to recover hospitality, visitor and tourism jobs from Covid-19.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	
<i>John C. Velis</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>

SENATE No. 2242

By Mr. Cyr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2242) of Julian Cyr and John C. Velis for legislation to recover hospitality, visitor and tourism jobs from Covid-19. Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to recover hospitality, visitor and tourism jobs from Covid-19.

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. 7002-8029 For a competitive grant program administered by the office of
2 travel and tourism to provide tourism and visitor marketing funds to businesses and regional
3 tourism councils for the purpose of promoting and advertising visitation and tourism in order to
4 create jobs, support the hospitality and tourism-related businesses in the commonwealth and
5 stimulate the state and local economies of the commonwealth; provided, that not less than
6 \$5,000,000 shall be allocated to regional tourism councils in order to provide advertising, public
7 relations and other marketing initiatives that will promote tourism and visitation and help recover
8 jobs impacted by the 2019 novel coronavirus pandemic\$15,000,000

9 SECTION 2. For a grant program for small business for marketing campaigns that align with
10 state and regional tourism marketing and promotion efforts \$10,000,000

11 SECTION 3. Section (a) of Section 13T of Chapter 23A of the general laws is hereby
12 amended by striking out “10,000,000” and replacing it with “15,000,000”.

13 SECTION 4. Section 13T of Chapter 23A is hereby amended by inserting the following
14 new section:

15 (f) At the end of each fiscal year, the department of revenue shall provide the amount of
16 all occupancy excise taxes collected over the course of the fiscal year. In the event the revenue
17 collected from the occupancy excise tax for that fiscal year exceeds that of the prior fiscal year,
18 10% of that increase shall be deposited into the Tourism Trust Fund. These funds shall be
19 distributed as allocated in section (d) of this section.

20 SECTION 5. Grants from the amounts collected pursuant to subsection (a) of section 13T
21 of chapter 23A of the General Laws allocated to regional tourism councils pursuant to clause (ii)
22 of subsection (d) of said section 13T of said chapter 23A shall be distributed not later than
23 September 1 of each fiscal year. Grants from the amounts collected pursuant to subsection (b) of
24 section 13T of chapter 23A of the General Laws allocated to regional tourism councils shall be
25 distributed not later than September 1 of each fiscal year according to the current allocation
26 formula.

27 SECTION 6. The secretary of the executive office of housing and economic development
28 is hereby directed to make an application for a waiver for the commonwealth to utilize United
29 States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Development Block
30 Grant funds to be directed through the Massachusetts office of travel and tourism to the regional
31 tourism councils for visitation and tourism travel recovery marketing and promotion.