

SENATE No. 911

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael J. Barrett

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 eliminate the public counsel fee.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>	
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/22/2021</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Danillo A. Sena</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>

SENATE No. 911

By Mr. Barrett, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 911) of Michael J. Barrett, Lindsay N. Sabadosa, Rebecca L. Rausch, James B. Eldridge and others for legislation to eliminate the public counsel fee. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 821 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to eliminate the public counsel fee.

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. Subsection (f) of section 2A of chapter 211D of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out in the first two sentences, each time it appears, the figure “\$150”
3 and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- \$100.

4 SECTION 2. Subsection (f) of section 2A of chapter 211D of the General Laws is
5 hereby amended by striking out in the first two sentences, each time it appears, the figure “\$100”
6 and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- \$50.

7 SECTION 3. Section 2A of chapter 211D of the General Laws is hereby amended by
8 striking out subsection (f), and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

9 (f) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, no person determined to
10 be indigent shall be assessed a counsel fee.

11 SECTION 4. Section 1 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

12 SECTION 5. Section 2 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

13 SECTION 6. Section 3 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2025.