

**SENATE . . . . . No. 84**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Sonia Chang-Diaz***

*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 preventing funds deposited in children's savings accounts from counting against cash assistance benefits.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/11/2021</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>4/21/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>4/25/2021</i>

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By Ms. Chang-Diaz, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 84) of Sonia Chang-Diaz, Elizabeth A. Malia and Patrick M. O'Connor for legislation to prevent funds deposited in children's savings accounts from counting against cash assistance benefits. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 26 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
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An Act preventing funds deposited in children's savings accounts from counting against cash assistance benefits.

*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 or regulation to the contrary,  
2 the department of transitional assistance shall allow funds deposited by a recipient of cash  
3 assistance under transitional aid to families with dependent children in an account designated in a  
4 child’s name intended to pay for higher education such as a children’s savings account or other  
5 long-term asset-building account established for a child and annually grown over the course of  
6 his or her lifetimes to accumulate assets outside of the asset limit in said accounts. The funds  
7 deposited in said accounts shall be used to help recipients save for the costs related to higher  
8 education or any other expense that the department determines will aid a recipient. The funds  
9 deposited in said accounts shall not be included as a countable asset under 106 CMR 204.120.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.