

HOUSE No. 1520

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kevin G. Honan

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 establish an apprenticeship program to ready vacant public housing apartments for occupancy.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| <i>Kevin G. Honan</i> | <i>17th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/17/2025</i> |
| <i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i> | <i>5th Worcester</i> | <i>5/20/2025</i> |

HOUSE No. 1520

By Representative Honan of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1520) of Kevin G. Honan for legislation to establish an apprentice training program to expedite the re-occupancy of vacant units of state-assisted housing. Housing.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1330 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act to establish an apprenticeship program to ready vacant public housing apartments for occupancy.

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 121B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 26D, the
2 following:

3 Section 26E: The office of housing and economic development and the office of labor
4 and workforce development shall establish an apprentice training program to expedite the
5 reoccupancy of vacant units of state-assisted housing developed through funds provided under
6 chapter 200 of the acts of 1948, chapter 667 of the acts of 1956, chapter 705 of the acts of 1966,
7 chapter 689 of the acts of 1974 and chapter 167 of the acts of 1987 and other housing programs
8 financed through the department of housing and community development.

9 The training program shall be developed by the department in consultation with
10 representatives of local housing authorities, public housing residents, public housing industry
11 professional organizations, organizations that represent public housing residents, and relevant
12 state agencies.

13 The program shall be developed to enable public housing residents to obtain the
14 education, job skills training, job placement assistance, and long-term follow-up leading to
15 economic self-sufficiency; provide public housing authorities and public housing capital
16 assistance teams under Section 26C of Chapter 121B of the General Laws with assistance in the
17 painting and preparation of vacant units to ready them for occupancy; and to foster the efficient
18 use of public housing capital and maintenance funds.

19 The training program shall be called the Brooke Public Housing Apprenticeship program
20 in honor of former U.S. Senator Edward W. Brooke.

21 The office of labor and workforce development is authorized to make grants to applicants
22 for the purpose of providing an apprenticeship program developed under this Section.