

HOUSE No. 1536

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 enhancing prioritization for the emergency assistance program.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/21/2025</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2025</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>3/10/2025</i>
<i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>
<i>Kelly W. Pease</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>	<i>3/24/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 1536

By Representative Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1536) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others relative to prioritization for the emergency assistance program. Housing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act enhancing prioritization for the emergency assistance program.

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

1 The first paragraph of section 30 of chapter 23B of the General Laws, as amended by
2 section 120 of chapter 7 of the acts of 2023, is hereby further amended by adding the following
3 new paragraphs:-

4
5 Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the
6 emergency housing assistance program established herein shall be available only to residents of
7 the commonwealth who have resided within the commonwealth for no less than three months,
8 provided however that this provision shall not apply to a veteran or members of their immediate
9 family, a victim of domestic violence or a person whose living situation has been affected by a
10 fire or other natural disaster that occurred in Massachusetts.

11

12 The department shall require applicants to provide proof of residency for a period of no
13 less than three months. The department may require applicants to submit documentation
14 including, but not limited to, federal and state issued identification documents, mail, financial
15 statements, and bills to meet the requirements of this section. This section shall apply to
16 applications submitted for the emergency housing assistance program on or after the effective
17 date of this act.