

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marjorie C. Decker

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 lift kids out of deep poverty.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Steven Owens</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Edward R. Philips</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>1/27/2025</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Dennis C. Gallagher</i>	<i>8th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/29/2025</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>

<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>
<i>Christopher Richard Flanagan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>
<i>William F. MacGregor</i>	<i>10th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to lift kids out of deep poverty.

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. Section 2 of chapter 118 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the fourth paragraph and inserting in place
3 thereof the following paragraph:--

4 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the payment standards for
5 monthly benefits for the program not including the rental allowance shall be increased effective
6 July first of each year beginning with July 1, 2025 by 20 percent above the payment standard in
7 effect in the previous fiscal year until the payment standard for the household size equals 50
8 percent of the federal poverty level for the household size; provided further, that once the
9 payment standard for the household size equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level for the
10 household size, the payment standard shall be increased effective July first of each year in order
11 that the payment standard shall be no less than 50 percent of the poverty level for the household
12 size as determined by the federal Department of Health and Human Services; provided further,
13 that the need standard and the payment amounts shall be further increased by the amount of a

14 clothing allowance in the month for which it is paid and by the rental allowance for households
15 incurring a rent or mortgage expense and not residing in public or subsidized housing.

16 SECTION 2. Section 1 of chapter 117A of the General Laws is hereby amended by
17 inserting after the first paragraph the following new paragraph:-

18 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the payment standards for
19 monthly benefits for the program shall be increased effective July first of each year beginning
20 with July 1, 2025 by 20 percent above the payment standard in effect in the previous fiscal year
21 until the payment standard for the household size equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level
22 for the household size; provided further, that once the payment standard for the household size
23 equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level for the household size, the payment standard shall
24 be increased effective July first of each year in order that the payment standard shall be no less
25 than 50 percent of the poverty level for the household size as determined by the federal
26 Department of Health and Human Services.