

**SENATE . . . . . No. 85**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Edward J. Kennedy, (BY REQUEST)***

*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 enabling private donations to the cannabis social equity trust fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Kevin Gilnack</i>		
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/10/2025</i>
<i>Manny Cruz</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>3/10/2025</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>4/7/2025</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 85**

---

---

By Mr. Kennedy (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 85) of Kevin Gilnack, Bruce E. Tarr and Manny Cruz for legislation to enable private donations to the cannabis social equity trust fund. Cannabis Policy.

---

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act enabling private donations to the cannabis social equity trust fund.

*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 14A of Chapter 94G of the General Laws is amended by inserting,  
2 at the end of the section, the following subsection:

3           (f) The executive office of economic development, in consultation with the advisory  
4 board, shall establish all necessary policies and procedures to enable the fund to solicit and  
5 accept donations from private individuals and entities including but not limited to licensed  
6 marijuana establishments or medical marijuana treatment centers seeking to satisfy their positive  
7 impact plan pursuant to Mass. Gen. Laws ch. 94G, § 4(a1/2)(xxxv), and other businesses,  
8 nonprofit organizations, and individuals.

9           (i) The executive office of economic development and the cannabis control commission  
10 shall publicize opportunities to donate to the cannabis social equity trust fund on their website  
11 and other relevant materials provided to marijuana establishments, medical marijuana treatment  
12 centers, municipalities, the media, other stakeholders, and the public.

13 (ii) No later than 90 days after the end of the fiscal year, the executive office of economic  
14 development shall submit a report to the chairs of the joint committee on ways and means and  
15 the joint committee on cannabis policy on private donations to the fund, including but not limited  
16 to efforts to advertise and solicit private donations, amounts raised, summary of amounts raised  
17 by source type, amount spent to administer the solicitation and collection of private donations.

18 SECTION 2. Chapter 62 of the General Laws is amended by inserting, after Section 6N,  
19 the following section:

20 Section 6O: Cannabis Social Equity Trust Fund; voluntary contributions

21 Section 6O. Every individual who files a separate return may voluntarily contribute one  
22 dollar to be paid over to the Cannabis Social Equity Trust Fund, established by section 14A of  
23 chapter 94G. In the case of a joint return of husband and wife, each spouse may voluntarily  
24 contribute five thousand dollars to said fund. A credit in the full amount of any contribution  
25 under this section shall be allowed against the tax imposed by this chapter; provided, that for any  
26 such return no such credit shall exceed the income tax liability for any taxable year.

27 A contribution made under this section may be made with respect to any taxable year at  
28 the time of filing the return of the tax imposed by this chapter for such taxable year; provided,  
29 however, that the commissioner shall prescribe the manner in which such contribution shall be  
30 made on the face of the return required by section five of chapter sixty-two C.

31 The provisions of this section shall apply only to residents required to file a return under  
32 this chapter.

33 For purposes of this section the words "income tax liability for any taxable year" shall  
34 mean the amount of tax imposed by this chapter reduced by sum of the credits allowed by clause  
35 (a) of section six.

36 SECTION 3. Section 14A of Chapter 94G of the General Laws is amended by inserting,  
37 at the end of the section, the following subsection:

38 (g) The executive office of economic development, in consultation with the advisory  
39 board, shall establish a program to guarantee loans through Community Development Financial  
40 Institutions, non-traditional nonprofit lenders, credit unions, and banks using a portion of the  
41 fund.

42 (i) The executive office of economic development, in consultation with the advisory  
43 board, shall convene at least one public listening session for stakeholders to provide feedback  
44 regarding the amount or percent of available funds that should be used for this program and other  
45 program details.

46 (ii) The executive office of economic development, in consultation with the advisory  
47 board, shall a stakeholders working group to provide feedback and guidance in the development  
48 of this program. The working group shall include the fund manager, secretary of the executive  
49 office of economic development of their designee, commissioner of banks of their designee,  
50 director of the growth capital division of the Massachusetts development finance agency or their  
51 designee, the chairs of the joint committee on cannabis policy committee or their designees, the  
52 chairs of the joint committee on ways and means or their designee, the chairs of the joint  
53 committee on financial services or their designee, the chairs of the joint committee on  
54 community development and small business or their designee, the chair of the Massachusetts

55 cannabis advisory board or their designee, the chair of the cannabis control commission or their  
56 designee, three social equity businesses owners appointed by the governor, three social equity  
57 business owners appointed by the treasurer and receiver general, three social equity business  
58 owners appointed by the attorney general, one community development financial institution  
59 leader appointed by the governor, one bank leader appointed by the governor, one credit union  
60 leader appointed by the governor, and the eon foundation.

61 (iii) The advisory board, in consultation with the working group, shall approve the  
62 percent or amount of available funds to be used for this program.

63 The advisory board, in consultation with the executive office of economic development  
64 and the working group shall promulgate regulations governing the structure and administration  
65 of the program.