

**SENATE . . . . . No. 972**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Kelly A. Dooner***

*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 establishing emergency shelter priorities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Kelly A. Dooner</i>	<i>Third Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>Steven George Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>4/2/2025</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 972**

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By Ms. Dooner, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 972) of Kelly A. Dooner for legislation to establish emergency shelter priorities. Housing.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act establishing emergency shelter priorities.

*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 30 of Chapter 23B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following paragraph after the first  
3 paragraph:-

4           The executive office shall prioritize access to emergency shelter assistance for the  
5 following groups, in the following order of priority: (1) veterans as defined by section 1 of  
6 chapter 115; (2) elderly persons as defined in section 14 of chapter 19A; and (3) families with  
7 legal residence in the Commonwealth who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, as defined by  
8 regulations promulgated by the executive office.