

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Michael J. Barrett***

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*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 eliminate the public counsel fee.**

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Michael J. Barrett*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Third Middlesex*

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

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 905 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to eliminate the public counsel fee.

*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. Subsection (f) of section 2A of chapter 211D of the General Laws is hereby  
2 amended by striking out in the first two sentences, each time it appears, the figure “\$150” and  
3 inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- \$100.

4 SECTION 2. Said subsection (f) of said section 2A of said chapter 211D is hereby further  
5 amended by striking out in the first two sentences, each time it appears, the figure “\$100” and  
6 inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the following figure:- \$50.

7 SECTION 3. Said section 2A of said chapter 211D is hereby further amended by striking  
8 out subsection (f), and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

9 (f) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, no person determined to  
10 be indigent shall be assessed a counsel fee.

11 SECTION 4. Section 1 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2027.

12 SECTION 5. Section 2 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2028.

13 SECTION 6. Section 3 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2029.