

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Peter J. Durant and Brian M. Ashe***

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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 creating crumbling concrete relief for homeowners.**

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>Worcester and Hampshire</i>	
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>4/23/2026</i>

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

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By Mr. Durant and Mr. Ashe of Longmeadow, a joint petition (accompanied by bill) (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Peter J. Durant and Brian M. Ashe for legislation to create crumbling concrete relief for homeowners. Environment and Natural Resources.

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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 creating crumbling concrete relief for homeowners.

*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. The following terms as used in this act shall have the following meanings,  
2 except where the context clearly indicates otherwise:—

3 “CEDAC” shall mean the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation as  
4 established by chapter 40H of the general laws;

5 “residential building” shall mean a building containing one or more dwelling units to be  
6 used exclusively for permanent residential occupancy by individuals or families.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 edition, is hereby  
8 amended by inserting after section 2FFFFFFF the following section:

9 Section 2KKKKKKK. (a) There shall be established a Crumbling Concrete Assistance  
10 Fund which shall be administered by the Community Economic Development Assistance  
11 Corporation, as established in chapter 40H of the general laws. The fund shall be credited with:

12 (i) appropriations or other money authorized by the general court and specifically designated to  
13 be credited to the fund; (ii) funds from public and private sources, including, but not limited to,  
14 gifts, grants, donations and settlements received by the commonwealth that are specifically  
15 designated to be credited to the fund; (iii) federal funds received under subsection (b); and (iv)  
16 interest earned on the assets of the fund.

17         Amounts credited to the fund shall be expended, without further appropriation, to: (A)  
18 provide financial assistance to owners of residential real property for the replacement of concrete  
19 foundations of such residential real property that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite  
20 or pyrrhotite; (B) minimize negative fiscal impacts on municipalities in which such property is  
21 located; and (C) reimburse the owner of a residential real property that presents satisfactory  
22 evidence, as determined by the program as established by section 3 of this act, that said owner  
23 has paid for and replaced their concrete foundation that deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite  
24 or pyrrhotite prior to the establishment of the fund; provided, however, that the reimbursement  
25 shall not exceed the funding the owner would have received had they applied for financial  
26 assistance through the fund. The unexpended balance in the fund at the end of a fiscal year shall  
27 remain available for expenditure in subsequent fiscal years. No expenditure made from the fund  
28 shall cause the fund to be in deficit at any point.

29         (b) The administrator may apply for, receive and deposit any federal funds, including, but  
30 not limited to, funds made available by the United States Department of Housing and Urban  
31 Development Section 108 Loan Guarantee program, into the fund. The administrator shall seek  
32 to maximize available federal reimbursements for money spent from the fund.

33 (c) Amounts issued from the fund to impacted homeowners and contractors or other  
34 vendors for the replacement of concrete foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of  
35 pyrite or pyrrhotite shall be exempt from taxation under chapter 62.

36 (d) Annually, not later than June 1, CEDAC shall report on the activities of the fund from  
37 the previous calendar year to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the senate and  
38 house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on environment and natural resources  
39 and the joint committee on housing.

40 SECTION 3: Chapter 40H of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024 Official  
41 Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

42 Section 10. There shall be established a Massachusetts Crumbling Concrete Assistance  
43 Program to provide assistance to owners of residential real property with concrete foundations  
44 that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite. This program shall be  
45 administered and supervised by the Community Economic Development Assistance Corporation,  
46 as established by chapter 40H of the general laws, as consistent with its powers under section 4  
47 of chapter 40H.

48 The program shall be overseen by a director who shall be appointed by the board of  
49 directors. The director shall report to the Executive Director of CEDAC. The director shall have  
50 the authority to hire staff sufficiently to meet the requirements and obligations of the program  
51 with the approval of the executive director of the CEDAC. Not more than ten percent of all  
52 monies allocated or made available in a given fiscal year to the Crumbling Concrete Assistance  
53 Fund as established by section 2KKKKKKK of chapter 29 of the general laws or a sum of one

54 and a half million dollars, whichever is greater, shall be used for administrative and operational  
55 costs.

56 The program shall develop requirements and guidelines that shall be published on the  
57 CEDAC public internet website. Should the requirements and guidelines be amended the  
58 program shall post the amended requirements and guidelines on the public internet website  
59 within 30 days of the approved amendment.

60 The program shall hold an annual public informational meeting to update the public on  
61 the activities of the program. This public meeting shall include a public comment period.

62 The program shall, without limitation:

63 (a) develop and promulgate eligibility requirements for participation by homeowners who  
64 are affected by pyrite or pyrrhotite. Such requirements shall include, but not be limited to: (i)  
65 verification of the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite in a concrete foundation through core testing  
66 conducted in accordance with standards established by the program; (ii) confirmation of pyrite or  
67 pyrrhotite-related deterioration by a licensed and trained home inspector or other qualified  
68 professional approved by the program; and (iii) documentation demonstrating that applicable  
69 insurance coverage for the necessary repair or remediation has been denied, in whole or in part,  
70 by the homeowner's insurer;

71 (b) develop and implement a standardized severity classification system to assess and  
72 rank the extent of damage to concrete foundations caused by the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite.  
73 Such system shall establish multiple tiers or categories of deterioration, based on objective  
74 criteria, including but not limited to: (i) the concentration and distribution of pyrite or pyrrhotite  
75 within the concrete as determined by core testing; (ii) the presence, width, and pattern of

76 cracking; (iii) evidence of structural compromise or loss of load-bearing capacity; and (iv) the  
77 progression and expected rate of further deterioration;

78 (c) develop and promulgate requirements establishing a process for the reimbursement of  
79 eligible homeowners who, prior to the effective date of the program, incurred costs to replace  
80 concrete foundations damaged by the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite. Eligibility for such  
81 reimbursement shall be subject to the same requirements and criteria established by the program  
82 for current applicants;

83 (d) develop a training program for all home inspectors, contractors, and other vendors  
84 who apply to do work on behalf of the program. The training program shall train inspectors,  
85 contractors, and other vendors on how to identify pyrite or pyrrhotite in concrete foundations,  
86 and determine the safety, in regards to pyrite or pyrrhotite, of concrete poured for all residential  
87 projects. The program may contract with an outside vendor to provide such training as they  
88 determine to be necessary;

89 (e) provide information biannually to the public regarding structurally sound concrete and  
90 the dangers of pyrite and pyrrhotite published on the CEDAC public internet website and other  
91 public communication sources as the program sees fit;

92 (f) administer and oversee the crumbling concrete assistance fund established in section  
93 2KKKKKKK of chapter 29;

94 (g) provide financial assistance to such owners of residential buildings for the  
95 replacement of concrete foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or  
96 pyrrhotite, including, but not limited to, financial reimbursement to homeowners who have had  
97 such repair or replacement performed prior to the effective date of this section;

98 (h) assist such owners of residential buildings to obtain additional financing necessary to  
99 fully fund the repair or replacement of concrete foundations that have deteriorated due to the  
100 presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite;

101 (i) approve contractors or other vendors for eligibility to perform foundation repairs or  
102 replacements on behalf of claimants. These contractors or other vendors shall have familiarity  
103 with crumbling concrete and the risks of pyrite or pyrrhotite;

104 (j) disburse such financial assistance to approved contractors or other vendors on behalf  
105 of claimants;

106 (k) develop a rate schedule for payment to approved contractors. The rate schedule shall  
107 be based on per feet of linear wall and per square foot of floor of the building;

108 (l) ensure that the financial assistance is used solely for costs of replacing concrete  
109 foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite;

110 (m) require the disclosure of the amount of all financial compensation received by an  
111 owner of such a residential building, if any, arising out of a claim for coverage under the  
112 property coverage provisions of the homeowners policy for foundation deterioration due to the  
113 presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite and ensure that such amount is considered when determining the  
114 amount of financial assistance offered to such owner;

115 (n) when appropriate, apply for, qualify for and receive any federal funds made available  
116 under any federal act, for assistance to owners of residential buildings and residential  
117 condominium units having concrete foundations that have deteriorated due to the presence of  
118 pyrite or pyrrhotite. To the extent permissible under federal law, all such federal funds shall be

119 deposited into the crumbling concrete assistance fund established pursuant to section  
120 2KKKKKK of chapter 29;

121 (o) enter into agreements, as necessary, with the Massachusetts Housing Finance  
122 Authority and any participating lender to develop and implement additional loan programs or  
123 financial products to assist such owners to repair or replace concrete foundations that have  
124 deteriorated due to the presence of pyrite or pyrrhotite, while employing terms and conditions  
125 that are preferable to the open market; and

126 (p) develop and implement an application process to allow homeowners affected by  
127 crumbling concrete foundations to apply for foundation replacement assistance. Such application  
128 process shall be electronic in nature and shall permit the submission of all required forms,  
129 supporting documentation, and materials through an online platform.

130 A decision on a request from an impacted homeowner for such financial assistance shall  
131 be provided in writing to the homeowner and shall include the information relied upon and the  
132 basis for such decision, including the relevant eligibility criteria, severity ranking, if eligible, the  
133 estimated replacement time, detailed reason for denial, if not eligible.

134 An impacted homeowner may request a review of any decision by the program relating to  
135 such homeowner not later than 30 days after the decision. A final determination on such a  
136 request for review shall be provided in writing to the homeowner not later than 60 days after  
137 receiving the homeowner's request, unless an extension is agreed to by the homeowner.

138 The program shall promulgate any additional guidelines or requirements necessary to  
139 properly administer the program, including but not limited the establishment of a maximum cap  
140 on the amount payable by the program for any eligible project, claim, or reimbursement. The

141 program shall review the maximum cap on an annually. The program shall consult with the  
142 Massachusetts Residents Against Crumbling Foundations when developing the initial guidelines  
143 and requirements. All guidelines or requirements that are necessary for the proper administration  
144 of this program shall be completed within nine months of the effective date of this act.

145 The director shall file an annual report with the clerks of the senate and the house of  
146 representatives, the joint committee on housing and the senate and house committees on ways  
147 and means: (a) monies allocated or made available pursuant to this section; (b) total financial  
148 assistance and financial assistance, by town, provided to owners of such residential buildings  
149 pursuant to this section; (c) administrative and operational expenditures; (d) the total number and  
150 number, by town, of applications for assistance received during the year and to date, (e) the total  
151 number and number, by town, of applications for assistance granted during the year and to date;  
152 (f) the average time to process applications; and (g) the total number and number, by town, of  
153 applications pending and amount of such claims. Such reports shall be filed annually on or  
154 before June 1 and shall refer to activities planned for the preceding calendar year. The director  
155 shall also file with said committees an annual report detailing all expenditures administered by  
156 the program. Such reports shall be filed on or before June 1 of each year and shall refer to  
157 activities in the preceding calendar year.

158 SECTION 4. The General Laws, as so appearing, are hereby amended by inserting after  
159 Chapter 64N the following new Chapter:

160 Chapter 64O:

161 Section 1: As used in this chapter, the following words shall, unless the context otherwise  
162 requires, have the following meanings:—

163 “Ready-mix concrete”, concrete that is manufactured for delivery and in an unhardened  
164 state, produced by combining cement, aggregates, water, and any admixtures, and mixed at a  
165 central batching plant or in a truck mixer, and transported by truck for placement at a  
166 construction site, including concrete delivered for use in residential, commercial, or other  
167 construction projects within the commonwealth.

168 “Program”, the Massachusetts Crumbling Concrete Assistance Program

169 Section 2: There shall be imposed a surcharge at a rate of six dollars per cubic yard on all  
170 ready mix concrete sold for use in residential and commercial projects within the  
171 commonwealth.

172 The surcharge shall be assessed at the point of sale and shall be remitted to the  
173 commonwealth by the ready-mix concrete producer, supplier, distributor, or other person or  
174 entity selling or distributing such concrete product within the commonwealth. Each such  
175 producer, supplier, distributor, or entity shall remit all surcharges collected pursuant to this  
176 section to the Department of Revenue not later than April 1 and October 1 of each year for  
177 surcharges collected during the preceding six-month period, in such form and manner as may be  
178 prescribed by the commissioner.

179 All such remittances shall be deposited into the Crumbling Concrete Assistance Fund, as  
180 established in section 2KKKKKK of chapter 29 of the General Laws, no later than 30 days after  
181 the receipt of remittance.

182 SECTION 5: Section 87XX ½ of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
183 hereby amended by inserting after the word “valuation”, in line 17, the following words:-

184 risks of pyrite or pyrrhotite

185 SECTION 6: Section 222 of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby  
186 amended by inserting after the word “board.”, in line 46, the following words:-

187 One of the required educational components shall include instruction on the risks  
188 associated with pyrite or pyrrhotite and guidance on how to identify the presence of pyrite or  
189 pyrrhotite in concrete foundations.; and

190 is further hereby amended by inserting after the word “regulations.”, in line 69, the  
191 following words:-

192 One of the required educational components shall include instruction on the risks  
193 associated with pyrite or pyrrhotite and guidance on how to identify the presence of pyrite or  
194 pyrrhotite in concrete foundations.

195 SECTION 7: Chapter 175 of General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
196 inserting the following new section:

197 Section 113Z: There shall be imposed a policy fee at the rate of six dollars on the named  
198 insured under each homeowners , and condominium unit owner’s property insurance. This  
199 surcharge shall be added to every new purchase of a policy or renewal of an existing policy.  
200 Such surcharge shall not be considered premium for any purpose.

201 Each admitted or nonadmitted insurer shall remit to the division of insurance, on a  
202 biannual basis and not later than April 1 and October 1 of each year for policy fees collected  
203 during the preceding six-month period, in such form and manner as may be prescribed by the  
204 division.

205 All such remittances shall be deposited into the Crumbling Concrete Assistance Fund, as  
206 established in section 2KKKKKK of chapter 29 of the General Laws, no later than 30 days after  
207 the receipt of remittance.