HOUSE DOCKET, NO. FILED ON: 1/14/2009

**HOUSE . . . . . . . . . . . . . . No.**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

**Matthew C. Patrick**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the assessment of real property of certain elderly persons.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PETITION OF:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: | District/Address: |
| Matthew C. Patrick | 3rd Barnstable |

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3057 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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An Act relative to the assessment of real property of certain elderly persons.

 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

 Section 1. Chapter 59 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 5K the following section:–

 Section 5L. In any city or town which accepts this section, the real property of a person 65 years of age or over that they have occupied as their domicile for 5 years or more or a person who owns the same jointly with a spouse who is 65 years of age or over and who, during the preceding year, had gross receipts from all sources not in excess of 50 percent of the medium income of the commonwealth shall upon application to the board of assessors be of assessed at the current value for 1 year. If 1 of the spouses attains this age of 65 during the year, application may be made there upon. Such persons shall apply annually within 4 weeks before or after the expiration of the previous assessment. Any improvement to the real property other then those mandated by federal or state law shall remove the property for this section and it shall be reassessed.