SENATE DOCKET, NO. FILED ON: 12/31/2008

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

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

PRESENTED BY:

**Tarr, Bruce (SEN)**

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

*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 requiring payment by certain prisoners of the Commonwealth

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

PETITION OF:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: | District/Address: |
| Tarr, Bruce (SEN) | First Essex and Middlesex |
| Richard R. Tisei | Middlesex and Essex |
| Michael R. Knapik | Second Hampden and Hampshire |
| Robert L. Hedlund | Plymouth and Norfolk |
| Scott P. Brown | Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex |

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. S01417 OF .]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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

An Act requiring payment by certain prisoners of the Commonwealth.

*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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any adult person committed to the state or county correctional facility, as defined in Section 1 of Chapter 125 of the General Laws, shall at the time of sentencing be interviewed by the Department of Probation for the purpose of determination of financial condition and indigency.  Said interview shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Sections 27A through 27C of Chapter 261 of the General Laws.  If the court finds the defendant not indigent, the court shall order in the minimum that the prisoner pay to the Commonwealth if committed to a state correctional facility or to the county of committed to a House of Correction, the sum of $2.00 (two dollars) per calendar day of incarceration to defray the costs of incarceration.  The Commissioner of Correction or Sheriff or Superintendent of the facility in which the prisoner is incarcerated, shall no later than thirty days prior to the prisoner’s release, prepare an accounting of sums owed to the Commonwealth  or a county, but non-payment shall in no case be a condition of release of grounds for violation of probation or parole.  The provisions of this Act shall not be applicable to prisoners determined to be pregnant, terminally ill or confined in a hospital during incarceration.  Any party aggrieved by the determination of the court, Commissioner, Sheriff or Superintendent may appeal such determination in accordance with the provisions of Section 27D of Chapter 261 of the General Laws.