

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce J. Ayers

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 providing for property tax relief for small business owners.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Bruce J. Ayers	1st Norfolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2837 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS..

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. Chapter 59 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
2 inserting after section 5J, the following section:—
3 Section 5K. With respect to each parcel of real property classified as class three, commercial, in each city or town
4 certified by the commissioner to be assessing all property at its full and fair cash valuation, and at the option of the
5 board of selectmen or mayor, with the approval of the city council, there shall be an exemption equal to not more
6 than 10 percent of the average assessed value of all property classified as class 3
7 commercial property; provided, however, that such an exemption shall only be applied to property that is owned and
8 occupied by a business that employed 50 persons or less in the year preceding the assessment date for the property;
9 and provided further that such an exemption shall only apply to property with an assessed valuation below 1 million
10 dollars. This exemption shall be in addition to any exemptions allowable under section 5. The value of exemption
11 granted under this section shall be borne by the combined value of class 3 commercial property.
12 For the purpose of this section the determination of the number of persons employed by the director of the division
13 of employment and training pursuant of section 64A of chapter 151A.
14 Section 2. Chapter 151A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
15 inserting after section 64, the following new section:—
16 Section 64A. The director shall on or before July first of each year provide to the chairman of the board of assessors
17 in each city and town a list of all employers located in said city or town with an average annual employment of 50
18 persons or less during the previous year. The list shall be confidential and shall be used only by the assessor or
19 employees duly designated by the assessors for the purpose of determining eligibility for property tax exemptions
20 pursuant to section 5K of chapter 59.