

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

**Jonathan Hecht**

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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 passage of the accompanying bill:

**An Act To Reduce Youth Consumption of Tobacco Products By Equalizing the Cigarette Excise.**

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Jonathan Hecht	29th Middlesex
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Pam Richardson	6th Middlesex

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine  
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## AN ACT TO REDUCE YOUTH CONSUMPTION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS BY CLOSING LOOPHOLES IN THE CIGARETTE EXCISE.

*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. Section 7B of Chapter 64C of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following  
2 paragraph:

3 (m) In addition to the excise imposed by paragraph (b), an excise shall be imposed on all cigars weighing  
4 more than 3 pounds per 1,000 units and not more than 12 pounds per 1,000 units held in the  
5 commonwealth at the rate of 80 per cent of the wholesale price of such product. In addition to the excise  
6 imposed by paragraph (b), an excise shall be imposed on all smoking tobacco held in the commonwealth  
7 at the rate of 90 per cent of the wholesale price of such product.

8 SECTION 2. Section 7C(a) of Chapter 64C of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the  
9 sentence “Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the excise imposed by this section shall equal  
10 twenty-five percent of the price paid by such licensee or unclassified acquirer to purchase smokeless  
11 tobacco so sold, imported, or acquired” and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:  
12 “Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the excise imposed by this section shall equal forty-five  
13 percent of the price paid by such licensee or unclassified acquirer to purchase smokeless tobacco so sold,  
14 imported or acquired.”