

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 alleviation of costs incurred while housing prisoners in the Commonwealth. .

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	1st Plymouth
Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	20th Middlesex
George N. Peterson, Jr.	9th Worcester
Elizabeth Poirier	14th Bristol

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1496 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ALLEVIATION OF COSTS INCURRED WHILE HOUSING
PRISONERS IN 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:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 124 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following new subsection:—
- 3 (v) adopt policies and procedures, in consultation with the county sheriffs, establishing an
4 optional fee, of a maximum of \$5, to be paid by inmates for daily room and board at any county
5 or state correctional facility. Based on an inmate's ability to pay, the commissioner or a county
6 sheriff may charge each inmate a reasonable daily room and board fee on a sliding scale. The
7 commissioner of corrections may deduct such fee from the inmate's account as provided for in
8 section 48A of chapter 127. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, room and board shall not
9 be denied if the inmate is incapable of paying the daily room and board fee.