

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cleon H. Turner

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 taxing alcoholic beverages.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Cleon H. Turner	1st Barnstable

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TAXING ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES.

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 29 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
2 inserting after section 2XX the following section: -
3

4 Section 2AAA. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a
5 separate fund to be known as the Substance Abuse Health Protection Fund. Amounts credited to
6 said fund shall be expended, subject to appropriation, to provide funding, or supplement existing
7 levels of funding, for the following purposes:
8

9 (a) For a comprehensive substance abuse treatment program, to be administered by the
10 department of public health, for the treatment of individuals who are dependent on or addicted to
11 alcohol or controlled substances, or both alcohol and controlled substances, and who lack public
12 or private health insurance that would provide coverage for such treatment; (b) To fund such
13 substance abuse treatment programs that are administered by the office of community
14 corrections, the department of corrections, the department of social services, the department of
15 youth services, and the office of the commissioner of probation; (c) For comprehensive school
16 health education programs, to be administered by the department of education, provided that
17 such programs shall incorporate information relating to the hazards of alcohol and controlled
18 substances use; and (d) For workplace-based and community substance abuse prevention and
19 drinking cessation programs, for substance abuse-related public service advertising and for drug
20 and alcohol education programs, to be administered by the department of public health.

21 SECTION 2. Chapter 29 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by inserting after
22 section 2XX the following section: -
23

24 Section 2AAB. There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a
25 separate fund to be known as the Police Training Fund. Amounts credited to said fund shall be
26 expended through the Executive Office of Public Safety, subject to appropriation, to provide
27 funding, or supplement existing levels of funding, for the purposes of municipal basic police
28 training and in-service.

29 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding clause (g) of section 6 of chapter 64H or any other general or
30 special law to the contrary, there shall be a sales tax of 5 per cent on each vendor's gross receipts
31 on each sale at retail of alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption. Notwithstanding any
32 general or special law to the contrary, the proceeds of said tax together with any penalties,
33 forfeitures, interest, costs of suits and fines collected in connection therewith, all as determined
34 by the commissioner of revenue according to his best information and belief shall be credited
35 50% to the Substance Abuse Health Protection Fund and 50% to the Police Training Fund. Any
36 appropriation, grant, gift, or other contribution explicitly made to said funds at any time, and any
37 income derived from the investment of amounts credited to said funds shall also be credited to
38 the specific fund denoted in the grant, gift, or other contribution.

39 SECTION 4. The excise on alcohol as described in section 21 of chapter 138 of the General
40 Laws shall be repealed.