

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Karen E. Spilka**

*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 creating a fund to assist municipalities experiencing extraordinary increases in the need for public safety services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Karen E. Spilka

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Middlesex and Norfolk

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine  
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## AN ACT CREATING A FUND TO ASSIST MUNICIPALITIES EXPERIENCING EXTRAORDINARY INCREASES IN THE NEED FOR PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES.

*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 appearing in the 2006 Official Edition , is  
2 hereby amended by adding the following new section:

3 Section 2YYY. There is hereby established and set up on the books of the Commonwealth a  
4 separate fund to be known as the Municipal Relief Fund, consisting of any monies appropriated  
5 to the fund by the general court and any income derived from investment of monies in the fund.

6 The fund shall be administered by the secretary of administration and finance. Funds may be  
7 expended by the secretary in grants to cities and towns to:

8 1) meet the extraordinary increases in the cost of public safety services provided by a  
9 municipality, provided that the provision of services has been in response to requests for  
10 assistance from mental health facilities, community residential programs, homeless  
11 shelters, and rehabilitation facilities and related educational facilities which provide  
12 clinical, rehabilitative and supportive services for adults or children; and provided further

13 that preference shall be given to municipalities in which there has been an increase in  
14 requests for public safety services during the previous 60 months of at least 25%; and

15 2) meet the extraordinary increases in the cost of public safety services provided by a  
16 municipality provided that the provision of services has been in response to requests for  
17 assistance from a correctional institution or other facility operated by the department of  
18 correction, and provided further that preference shall be given to communities in which  
19 such requests for public safety services in fiscal year 2007 was increased by at least 20%  
20 over such requests in fiscal year 2006; and

21 3) provide assistance to municipalities in which at least 190 parcels, representing at least  
22 1% of the total number of parcels in that municipality, are exempt from taxation under  
23 clause 3 of section 5 of chapter 59 of the General Laws.

24 No expenditures from the fund shall be authorized that would cause the fund to be deficient at  
25 the end of any fiscal year.