

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Spilka, Karen (SEN)

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 enhance opportunities for housing among recipients of transitional assistance.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Spilka, Karen (SEN)

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Middlesex and Norfolk

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOUSING AMONG RECIPIENTS OF TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE.

*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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of
2 transitional assistance shall each month deposit into escrow accounts for the benefit of
3 homeless individuals and families receiving assistance under the program of emergency aid to
4 elders, disabled and children, pursuant to chapter 117A of the General Laws, or receiving
5 assistance under the program of transitional aid to families with dependent children, pursuant to
6 chapter 118 of the General Laws, an amount equal to the amount by which the department
7 reduces the grants of said individuals and families for lack of shelter expenses. Such escrowed
8 funds shall be available to such individuals and families to obtain and retain permanent housing
9 and to remove barriers to obtaining and retaining housing and shall not be countable toward
10 otherwise applicable asset limits.