

HOUSE No. 1372

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Christine P. Barber

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act promoting housing stability for families by strengthening the HomeBASE program.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/10/2021</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>3/2/2021</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>3/3/2021</i>
<i>Adam G. Hinds</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/18/2021</i>
<i>Jon Santiago</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/18/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>3/25/2021</i>
<i>Linda Dean Campbell</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>3/25/2021</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/8/2021</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/8/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 1372

By Ms. Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1372) of Christine P. Barber and others relative to housing stability for families by strengthening the HomeBASE program. Housing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act promoting housing stability for families by strengthening the HomeBASE program.

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 30 of chapter 23B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting after subsection A, paragraph (e) the following:-

3 (f) for re-housing, short-term housing transition program benefits, which shall be
4 available in 12-month, renewable allotments.

5 The department shall provide further allotments of household assistance from the
6 Massachusetts short-term housing transition program to families that received household
7 assistance in a prior 12-month period to prevent eviction from existing housing or to relocate to
8 another housing situation in cases where a.) the family complied with their rehousing plan during
9 the prior period of assistance, b.) continues to include a child under the age of 21 or a pregnant
10 person, and c.) has a gross income that does not exceed 50 percent of area median income or has
11 not had income in excess of said 50 percent level for a period of six months. The department
12 shall not require families to be evicted from their existing housing or to otherwise establish that

13 they fall into one of the four categories of affirmative eligibility for emergency assistance shelter
14 currently listed in item 7004-0101. The department shall provide household assistance in an
15 amount up to \$10,000, or a higher cap established in line item 7004-0108, for subsequent 12-
16 month periods to eligible families.

17 The department shall allow families to combine and maximize benefits under the
18 Massachusetts short-term housing transition program and residential assistance for families in
19 transition funds from line item 7004-9316 if families are eligible for both programs, such funds
20 are needed to promote housing stability, and the assistance is non-duplicative.