

HOUSE No. 2655

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William Smitty Pignatelli

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 enhancing the volunteer service tax reduction for seniors.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>William Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>4th Berkshire</i>
<i>Benjamin B. Downing</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>

<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jose F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Dennis A. Rosa</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>7th Norfolk</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>

HOUSE No. 2655

By Mr. Pignatelli of Lenox, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2655) of William Smitty Pignatelli and others for legislation to authorize municipalities to reduce the real property tax obligations of persons over the age of sixty in exchange for volunteer service. Revenue.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act enhancing the volunteer service tax reduction for seniors.

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 5K of chapter 59 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence and inserting in place
3 thereof the following two sentences:- In exchange for such volunteer services, the city or town
4 shall reduce the real property tax obligations of such person over the age of 60 on his tax bills,
5 and any reduction so provided shall be in addition to any exemption or abatement to which any
6 such person is otherwise entitled. No person shall receive a rate of, or be credited with, more
7 than the current minimum wage of the commonwealth per hour for up to 125 hours of volunteer
8 services provided in a given tax year.

9 SECTION 2. Said section 5K of said chapter 59, as so appearing, is hereby further
10 amended by striking out the third paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following
11 paragraph:-

12 A city or town, by vote of its legislative body, subject to its charter, may adjust the
13 exemption in this clause by allowing an approved representative, for persons physically unable,
14 to provide such services to the city or town.