

HOUSE No. 288

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Carlos González

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 relative to providing relief for micro businesses for the duration of executive order 591 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Liz Miranda</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Gerard J. Cassidy</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Danillo A. Sena</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 288

By Mr. González of Springfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 288) of Carlos González and others relative to a micro-business stimulus package due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Community Development and Small Businesses.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to providing relief for micro businesses for the duration of executive order 591 in response to the COVID-19 outbreak.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide forthwith for relief to micro businesses within the commonwealth during the COVID-19 pandemic, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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. For the purposes of this act, the following words shall, unless the context
2 clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

3

4 “Fund”, the COVID-19 Micro Business Economic Stimulus Fund established in section
5 2.

6

7 “General operation losses”, loss of business income, goods or services related to the
8 COVID-19 pandemic.

9

10 “Micro business”, a business entity, including its affiliates, that: (i) is independently
11 owned and operated; (ii) has a principal place of business in the commonwealth; (iii) has fewer
12 than 5 employees; and (iv) reported gross receipts or sales on its 2018 tax return [PJ(1)] of not
13 more than \$200,000[MC(2)] .

14

15 SECTION 2. (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth
16 a separate fund to be known as the COVID-19 Micro Business Economic Stimulus Fund to be
17 administered by the executive office of housing and economic development.

18

19 (b) The purpose of the fund shall be for financial assistance in the form of grants to micro
20 businesses with credible revenue losses due to the 2019 novel coronavirus, or COVID-19,
21 outbreak and executive order 591 or any subsequent order pursuant to such emergency. Each
22 grant provided to a micro business under this act shall be of an amount that is not less than
23 \$15,000; provided, however, that, not less than \$11,250 of each grant shall be used for payment
24 to employees of the micro business and not less than \$3,750 of each grant shall be used to
25 mitigate or offset general operation losses of the micro business.

26

27 (c) There shall be credited to the fund all amounts that are, by law, transferred or
28 authorized to be transferred thereto or directed to be deposited therein, and all amounts received
29 as gifts, grants, or contributions for the purposes of the fund. Amounts credited to the fund shall

30 not be subject to further appropriation and any money remaining in the fund at the end of a fiscal
31 year shall not revert to the General Fund.

32

33 (d) The executive office of housing and economic development shall promulgate
34 regulations necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to,
35 regulations pertaining to grant application and disbursement procedures.

36

37 SECTION 3. On the effective date of this act, the comptroller shall transfer \$50,000,000
38 from the General Fund to the COVID-19 Micro Business Relief Fund for the purposes of
39 carrying out this act.