

HOUSE No. 3110

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joan Meschino

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 to promote fairness in probation fees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Joan Meschino</i>	<i>3rd Plymouth</i>
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Dylan Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Juana Matias</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Solomon Goldstein-Rose</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>William Crocker</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Natalie Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>

<i>Daniel Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>

HOUSE No. 3110

By Ms. Meschino of Hull, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3110) of Joan Meschino and others relative to parole fees assessed upon persons receiving public assistance . The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act to promote fairness in probation fees.

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 368 of chapter 26 of the acts of 2003 is hereby amended by adding
2 at the end of the first sentence of the first paragraph the following words:--

3 “provided; however, that no parole fee shall be assessed upon any person receiving
4 assistance under one or more of the following programs: transitional aid to families with
5 dependent children, emergency aid to the elderly, disabled and children, the Mass Health
6 program (formerly Medicaid), Title XVI of the Social Security Act, or veterans benefits under
7 section 5 of chapter 115 of the General Laws.”

8 SECTION 2. Section 87A of chapter 276 of the General Laws, as most recently amended
9 by section 121 of chapter 133 of the acts of 2016, is hereby further amended by striking out the
10 first sentence of the third paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following two sentences:--

11 “The court shall waive payment of said fees if it determines after a hearing and upon
12 written finding the person is receiving assistance under one or more of the following programs:

13 transitional aid to families with dependent children, emergency aid to the elderly, disabled and
14 children, the Mass Health program (formerly Medicaid), Title XVI of the Social Security Act, or
15 veterans benefits under section 5 of chapter 115 of the General Laws. The court may waive fees
16 if it determines after a hearing and upon written finding that such payment would constitute an
17 undue hardship upon any other person or his family due to limited income, employment status or
18 any other factor.”