

HOUSE No. 3547

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James Arciero

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 exempt disabled veteran income for housing.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

James Arciero

Terry Stader

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

2nd Middlesex

2A Old Colony Drive

Westford, MA 01886

HOUSE No. 3547

By Mr. Arciero of Westford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3547) of James Arciero and Terry Stader relative to eliminating certain payments made to disabled veterans from the computation of rental housing vouchers. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to exempt disabled veteran income for housing.

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. The fifth paragraph of section 32 of chapter 121B of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence
3 and inserting in place thereof the following sentence:- In determining the net income for the
4 purpose of computing the rent of a totally unemployable disabled veteran, a housing authority
5 shall exclude amounts of disability compensation paid by the United States government for
6 disability occurring in connection with military service in excess of \$1,800; provided, that such
7 authorization shall apply only in state-aided projects as provided in sections 35 and 36.

8 SECTION 2. The secretary of housing and economic development shall, in collaboration
9 with the commissioner of veterans' services, develop a program by which the commonwealth
10 shall establish a specific housing priority, income exemption, or other policy that shall ensure
11 that a disabled veteran, who does not qualify for a voucher under the section 8 housing assistance
12 program administered by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development on

- 13 the basis of the amount of the veterans' disability benefits received, shall receive priority
- 14 placement in a housing facility or project funded by the commonwealth.