

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 659**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Marjorie C. Decker***

*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 protect families experiencing homelessness from having to sleep in unsafe places.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Juana Matias</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Cory Atkins</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>

<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Peter V. Kocot</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>John W. Scibak</i>	<i>2nd Hampshire</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Jose F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Paul Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>
<i>Chynah Tyler</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

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By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 659) of Marjorie C. Decker and others that the Department of Housing and Community Development provide emergency housing assistance to certain eligible families experiencing homelessness. Housing.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act to protect families experiencing homelessness from having to sleep in unsafe places.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 23B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting in Section 30, as  
2 appearing in the 2016 Official Edition, the following after "pregnant woman with no other  
3 children.":- "The department shall provide emergency housing assistance to eligible families  
4 including but not limited to families who on the date of application for emergency assistance  
5 have no other feasible alternative housing, as defined in 760 CMR 67.06.1(b), and who, but for  
6 not having spent 1 night in a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a  
7 regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including but not limited to a car, park,  
8 abandoned building, medical facility, bus or train station, airport or camping ground, would be  
9 eligible for emergency assistance under clauses (i), (ii), (iii) or (iv);"