

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1598**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Patrick M. O'Connor*

*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 reducing senior citizen property taxes.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/1/2017</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

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By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1598) of Patrick M. O'Connor, Donald F. Humason, Jr., Ryan C. Fattman and Josh S. Cutler for legislation to reduce senior citizen property taxes. Revenue.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act reducing senior citizen property taxes.

*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 2014  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence and inserting in place  
3 thereof the following:-

4           In exchange for such volunteer services, the city or town shall reduce the real property  
5 tax obligations of such person over the age of 60 on their tax bills, and any reduction so provided  
6 shall be in addition to any exemption or abatement to which any such person is otherwise  
7 entitled. No person shall receive a rate of, or be credited with, more than the current minimum  
8 wage of the commonwealth per hour for up to 175 hours of volunteer services provided in a  
9 given tax year; provided, that a city or town may limit the number of hours of volunteer services  
10 for which a person may receive a reduction on their tax bills to fewer than 175.

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

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