

SENATE No. 84

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sonia Chang-Diaz

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 preventing funds deposited in children's savings accounts from counting against cash assistance benefits.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/11/2021</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>

SENATE No. 84

By Ms. Chang-Diaz, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 84) of Sonia Chang-Diaz, Elizabeth A. Malia and Patrick M. O'Connor for legislation to prevent funds deposited in children's savings accounts from counting against cash assistance benefits. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 26 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act preventing funds deposited in children's savings accounts from counting against cash assistance benefits.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law or regulation to the contrary,
2 the department of transitional assistance shall allow funds deposited by a recipient of cash
3 assistance under transitional aid to families with dependent children in an account designated in a
4 child’s name intended to pay for higher education such as a children’s savings account or other
5 long-term asset-building account established for a child and annually grown over the course of
6 his or her lifetimes to accumulate assets outside of the asset limit in said accounts. The funds
7 deposited in said accounts shall be used to help recipients save for the costs related to higher
8 education or any other expense that the department determines will aid a recipient. The funds
9 deposited in said accounts shall not be included as a countable asset under 106 CMR 204.120.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.