

SENATE No. 867

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Nick Collins

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 requiring property owners to bear the cost of relocation assistance.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	
<i>Mayor Martin J. Walsh</i>	<i>Boston City Hall</i>	
<i>David Biele</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>

SENATE No. 867

By Mr. Collins, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 867) of Nick Collins, Mayor Martin J. Walsh, David Biele and Daniel J. Ryan for legislation to require property owners to bear the cost of relocation assistance. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act requiring property owners to bear the cost of relocation assistance.

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. Chapter 79A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
2 section 13, as appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following
3 section:-

4 Section 13. Enforcement of state sanitary code or state building code; displacement of
5 persons; moving expenses; state financial assistance; reports.

6 Any public agency displacing one or more persons by issuing an order to vacate real
7 property for the purpose of enforcing Article II of the state sanitary code, pursuant to section one
8 hundred and twenty-seven B of chapter one hundred and eleven, or for purposes of enforcing the
9 state building code, shall provide relocation assistance and a relocation payment to such person
10 or persons for actual reasonable documented expenses in moving his personal property from the
11 real property, unless such payment is otherwise provided. The provisions of this section shall

12 apply only to real property which is not part of or constitutes the entirety of a project where
13 relocation payments would otherwise be required.

14 All costs incurred by any public agency in the provision of relocation assistance and
15 relocation payments authorized by this section shall be paid by the owner of the real property to
16 the public agency upon presentation to the owner by the public agency of a statement of those
17 relocation costs and of the date upon which the relocation costs are due and payable. A claim for
18 the expense incurred by the public agency shall constitute a debt due the city or town upon the
19 rendering of account thereof. In the event that the relocation costs to be paid the public agency
20 are not paid within 10 days after the date due, the unpaid balance shall constitute a lien on the
21 parcel. The provisions of the second paragraph of section three A of chapter one hundred and
22 thirty-nine relative to liens for such debt and the collection of the claims for such debt, shall
23 apply to this debt, except that the board of health, or, in the cities of Boston, Worcester and
24 Cambridge, the commissioner of housing inspection or building commissioner, shall act
25 hereunder in place of the mayor and or board of selectmen.