

SENATE No. 96

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sal N. DiDomenico

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 lift kids out of deep poverty.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/4/2021</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/5/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/5/2021</i>
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	<i>2/8/2021</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/9/2021</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>2/12/2021</i>
<i>Paul R. Feeney</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/12/2021</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>2/16/2021</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>2/22/2021</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Jessica Ann Giannino</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>

	<i>Middlesex</i>	
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>3/2/2021</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>3/2/2021</i>
<i>Susan L. Moran</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	<i>3/2/2021</i>
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>3/2/2021</i>
<i>Adam J. Scanlon</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>	<i>3/4/2021</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>3/4/2021</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	<i>3/12/2021</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>3/26/2021</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>3/31/2021</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/31/2021</i>
<i>Adam Gomez</i>	<i>Hampden</i>	<i>3/31/2021</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	<i>4/9/2021</i>

SENATE No. 96

By Mr. DiDomenico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 96) of Sal N. DiDomenico, Jack Patrick Lewis, Thomas M. Stanley, James B. Eldridge and other members of the General Court for legislation to lift kids out of deep poverty. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 36 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to lift kids out of deep poverty.

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 2 of chapter 118 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the fourth paragraph and inserting in place
3 thereof the following new paragraph:-

4 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the payment standards for
5 monthly benefits for the program not including the rental allowance shall be increased effective
6 July first of each year beginning with July 1, 2021 by 20 percent above the payment standard in
7 effect in the previous fiscal year until the payment standard for the household size equals 50
8 percent of the federal poverty level for the household size; provided further, that once the
9 payment standard for the household size equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level for the

10 household size, the payment standard shall be increased effective July first of each year in order
11 that the payment standard shall be no less than 50% of the poverty level for the household size as
12 determined by the federal Department of Health and Human Services; provided further, that the
13 need standard and the payment amounts shall be further increased by the amount of a clothing
14 allowance in the month for which it is paid and by the rental allowance for households incurring
15 a rent or mortgage expense and not residing in public or subsidized housing.

16 SECTION 2. Section 1 of chapter 117A of the General Laws is hereby amended by
17 inserting after the first paragraph the following new paragraph:-

18 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the payment standards for
19 monthly benefits for the program shall be increased effective July first of each year beginning
20 with July 1, 2021 by 20 percent above the payment standard in effect in the previous fiscal year
21 until the payment standard for the household size equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level
22 for the household size; provided further, that once the payment standard for the household size
23 equals 50 percent of the federal poverty level for the household size, the payment standard shall
24 be increased effective July first of each year in order that the payment standard shall be no less
25 than 50% of the poverty level for the household size as determined by the federal Department of
26 Health and Human Services.