

HOUSE No. 79

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 providing immediate childcare assistance to homeless families.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>
<i>Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>

<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>Jay D. Livingstone</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Peter V. Kocot</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Harold P. Naughton, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Worcester</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>

HOUSE No. 79

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 79) of Marjorie C. Decker and others relative to providing child care assistance to homeless families. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act providing immediate childcare assistance to homeless families.

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

1 An Act providing immediate child care assistance to homeless families.

2 SECTION 1. Chapter 15D of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the
3 following section:-

4 Section 19. (a) A Family placed in temporary emergency assistance shelter, domestic
5 violence shelter or non-emergency assistance shelter by the department of transitional assistance
6 shall be eligible for the department of early education and care’s homeless child care assistance
7 vouchers when the family first arrives at the shelter and at any time the family chooses while
8 residing in the shelter.

9 (b) A family living in a shelter shall be eligible for full-time child care.

10 (c) It shall not be necessary for a family placed in a shelter to document the family’s
11 income in order to access homeless child care assistance.

12 (d) The initial voucher shall be written for up to 12 months or up to 30 days after the
13 family's scheduled departure date, whichever period is shorter.

14 SECTION 2. The department shall adopt regulations or policies for the administration of
15 this act within 90 days of the effective date of this act.