

SENATE No. 751

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia S. Creem

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 relative to the compensation of a guardian ad litem.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Cynthia S. Creem</i>	<i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i>

SENATE No. 751

By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 751) of Cynthia S. Creem for legislation relative to the appointment of GAL to investigate. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 693 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the compensation of a guardian ad litem.

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

- 1 Chapter 215 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby
- 2 amended by striking section 56A and inserting in place thereof the following section:—

- 3 Section 56A. Any judge of the probate and family court may appoint a guardian ad litem
- 4 to investigate the facts of any proceeding pending in said court relating to or involving questions
- 5 as to the care, custody or maintenance of minor children and as to any matter involving domestic
- 6 relations except those for the investigation of which provision is made by section sixteen of
- 7 chapter two hundred and eight. Said guardian ad litem shall, before final judgment or decree in
- 8 such proceeding, report in writing to the court the results of the investigation, and such report
- 9 shall be open to inspection to all the parties in such proceeding or their attorneys. The
- 10 compensation, together with any expense, shall be fixed by the court and shall be paid by the

11 commonwealth or by one or both of the parties, as the court may order, upon certificate by the
12 judge to the state treasurer. The state police, local police and probation officers shall assist the
13 guardian ad litem so appointed, upon his request.