

SENATE No. 794

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis

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 regarding Medicare savings programs eligibility.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>3/11/2021</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>3/17/2021</i>
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	<i>3/17/2021</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>3/23/2021</i>
<i>Joseph A. Boncore</i>	<i>First Suffolk and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/25/2021</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>3/29/2021</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>4/7/2021</i>
<i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/7/2021</i>

SENATE No. 794

By Mr. Lewis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 794) of Jason M. Lewis, Sal N. DiDomenico, Joanne M. Comerford, Michael D. Brady and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to Medicare savings programs eligibility. Health Care Financing.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 699 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act regarding Medicare savings programs eligibility.

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 25A of Chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by replacing
2 Section 25A with the following section:-

3 SECTION 25A. The division shall disregard income in an amount equivalent to sixty-
4 five percent of the federal poverty level, as adjusted annually, in determining eligibility for the
5 Qualified Medicare Beneficiary, Specified Low-Income Medicare Beneficiary and Qualified
6 Individual programs, described in 42 U.S.C. §1396(a)(10)(E) and also known as the Medicare
7 Savings or Medicare Buy-In Programs in accordance with the following schedule or such earlier
8 date as the division determines to be feasible: In the year in which the state plan amendment is
9 approved, the division shall disregard income in an amount equivalent to forty-five percent

10 (45%) of the federal poverty level; in the following year the division shall disregard income in an
11 amount equivalent to sixty-five percent (65%) of the federal poverty level.

12 The division shall implement a waiting list in any year in which the number of qualified
13 applicants for the Qualified Individual Program exceeds the annual block grant amount for said
14 program. The division shall not apply an asset test in determining eligibility for said Medicare
15 Savings Programs. The division shall submit a state plan amendment to implement this section
16 no later than 30 days after the effective date of this section and subsequently promulgate all
17 regulations necessary to implement said income and asset disregards.