

**SENATE . . . . . No. 66**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Spilka, Karen (SEN)**

*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to enhance opportunities for housing among recipients of transitional assistance.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Spilka, Karen (SEN)	Second Middlesex and Norfolk
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine  
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## AN ACT TO ENHANCE OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOUSING AMONG RECIPIENTS OF TRANSITIONAL 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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the department of  
2 transitional assistance shall each month deposit into escrow accounts for the benefit of  
3 homeless individuals and families receiving assistance under the program of emergency aid to  
4 elders, disabled and children, pursuant to chapter 117A of the General Laws, or receiving  
5 assistance under the program of transitional aid to families with dependent children, pursuant to  
6 chapter 118 of the General Laws, an amount equal to the amount by which the department  
7 reduces the grants of said individuals and families for lack of shelter expenses. Such escrowed  
8 funds shall be available to such individuals and families to obtain and retain permanent housing  
9 and to remove barriers to obtaining and retaining housing and shall not be countable toward  
10 otherwise applicable asset limits.