

SENATE No. 84

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James B. Eldridge

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 universal basic income.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>

SENATE No. 84

By Mr. Eldridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 84) of James B. Eldridge, Tami L. Gouveia, Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Jennifer E. Benson for legislation relative to universal basic income. Community Development and Small Businesses.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to universal basic income.

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. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the
2 department of housing and community development shall, within six months of the effective date
3 of this act, establish and implement a pilot program to demonstrate the individual, family, and
4 community economic impacts and state-level cost savings of a universal basic income. In
5 establishing a plan for the pilot program, the department shall receive input from professionals
6 with demonstrated expertise in the fields of universal basic income, economics, labor, workforce
7 development, and social services administration and may consider, but not be limited to
8 considering, the following factors: (1) community selection criteria and process; (2) participant
9 eligibility criteria and selection processes; (3) pilot program administration and management,
10 including payment timing, systems, and processes; (4) impacts on the economic and public
11 health benefits of a universal basic income scheme; and (5) efficient collection of quality data.

12 (b) The pilot program shall include 100 participants residing in each of three
13 economically diverse cities or towns. At least one city or town shall be a rural community. Each
14 individual participating in the program shall receive \$1,000 per month per year for three years
15 and agree to fully participate in the study and analysis plan of the universal basic income
16 scheme.

17 (c) Not later than one year after the conclusion of the pilot program, the department shall
18 file a report, which shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

19 (i) socio-demographic information, including but not limited to the age, race, ethnicity,
20 education level, family composition community of residence, housing costs, additional income,
21 and government benefits received, of each participant and their family;

22 (ii) data collected biannually during the pilot program by survey, focus group, or
23 interview to determine how individuals allocated the \$1,000 per month stipend;

24 (iii) analysis of cost benefit and cost savings extrapolated from the pilot to a true
25 universal basic income scheme;

26 (iv) consideration of how universal basic income could be used to address historic and
27 contemporary inequalities, including, but not limited to, institutional racism;

28 (v) recommendations on implementing a statewide universal basic income program,
29 including monthly payment amounts, that will maximize cost savings and public benefits; and

30 (vi) draft legislation to implement the recommended statewide universal basic income
31 program.

32 The department shall file the report with the clerks of the senate and house of
33 representatives, who shall forward the report to the house and senate chairs of the joint
34 committee on labor and workforce development, the house and senate chairs of the joint
35 committee on housing, and the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on economic
36 development and emerging technologies.