

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3126

By Mr. Cerasoli of Quincy, petition of William M. Blake, Robert A. Cerasoli and another relative to amending the victims of violent crime law to provide for psychological care for victims. Ways and Means (House).

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT AMENDING THE VICTIM OF VIOLENT CRIME STATUTE TO PROVIDE FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL CARE FOR VICTIMS.

*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 258A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding  
2 after section 5 the following section:

3 *Section 5A.* Notwithstanding the provisions of section 5,  
4 there shall be made available for every victim of a violent crime, as  
5 defined and determined under the provisions of this chapter, a fund  
6 to provide for the treatment and care of such person by a qualified  
7 psychologist or psychiatrist. A person having filed under the provi-  
8 sions of this chapter may make application to the court, in a form  
9 approved by the attorney general, for such services, and shall be  
10 entitled to select any duly-licensed psychologist or psychiatrist for  
11 such treatment and care. The court shall conduct a hearing on said  
12 application, and if it finds that such psychiatric or psychological  
13 services would be helpful or are necessary because of the effects  
14 upon the victim of the violent crime, it shall order that the fund  
15 provided under this section shall be effective. The psychologist or  
16 psychiatrist services under this section shall submit his bill for  
17 services to the victim, who shall submit it to the court for payment.

