

By Mr. Greenhalgh of Harwich, petition of Haden G. Greenhalgh for legislation to require committees of the General Court to attach to legislation reported favorably to the House or Senate an estimate of the cost of funding and a determination of the source of payment thereof. Rules of the branches, acting concurrently.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE ESTIMATION OF THE COST OF FUNDING LEGISLATION AND THE DETERMINATION OF THE SOURCE OF PAYMENT THEREOF.

*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 29 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting  
2 after section 4 the following section: —

3 *Section 4A.* Any committee of the general court reporting  
4 favorably on a bill which imposes a cost or financial obligation  
5 upon the commonwealth or any political subdivision thereof shall  
6 attach thereto an estimate of the amount of such cost or obligation  
7 for the succeeding two fiscal years and if the obligation is imposed  
8 in the case of a political subdivision subject to any contribution,  
9 payment or reimbursement by the commonwealth or the federal  
10 government, the anticipated amount of such contribution, pay-  
11 ment or reimbursement.

12 Any political subdivision of the commonwealth may refuse to  
13 appropriate an amount greater than that shown in the estimate of  
14 costs attached to a bill as hereinbefore provided.

15 The amount of contribution, payment or repayments, if any, by  
16 the commonwealth, determined as hereinbefore provided, shall  
17 not be decreased in any fiscal year unless the political subdivision  
18 affected has received notice of such decrease before the end of the  
19 prior fiscal year.

