

SENATE No. 810

By Mr. Morrissey, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 810) of Michael W. Morrissey for legislation to increase fees for marriages and divorces and to provide that such increases be used to aid shelters for victims of domestic violence. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Four.

AN ACT PERTAINING TO THE FEES REQUIRED FOR ISSUING A CERTIFICATE OF MARRIAGE AND FOR A COMPLAINT FOR DIVORCE, AFFIRMATION OR ANNULMENT OF MARRIAGE.

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. Chapter 262, section 34, clause (42) of the
2 General Laws is hereby amended by deleting the words "four
3 dollars" and inserting in place thereof the following: — Nine
4 dollars, with five dollars of this fee to be sent to the department of
5 social services. Said department shall use such monies collected
6 to aid shelters for victims of domestic violence throughout the
7 Commonwealth. Such aid shall consist of monies provided
8 directly to shelters providing that each shelter shall meet the
9 criteria established by the department of social services. Such
10 monies shall be distributed annually on the basis of need as deter-
11 mined by the said department. Such determination shall include,
12 but not be limited to, a thorough evaluation of the shelter's
13 program and the population it serves. The department shall report
14 annually to the general court on or before the first Wednesday in
15 December on the implementation and distribution of funds for the
16 said shelters along with recommendations for legislation.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 262, section 40 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by deleting the words "fifty dollars" in the first
3 clause and inserting in place thereof the following: — Fifty
4 dollars, with five dollars of this fee to be sent to the department of

5 social services. Said department shall use such monies collected to
6 aid shelters for victims of domestic violence throughout the
7 Commonwealth. Such aid shall consist of monies provided
8 directly to shelters providing that each shelter shall meet the
9 criteria established by the department of social services. Such
10 monies shall be distributed annually on the basis of need as deter-
11 mined by the said department. Such determination shall include,
12 but not be limited to, a thorough evaluation of the shelter's
13 program and the population it serves. The department shall report
14 annually to the general court on or before the first Wednesday in
15 December on the implementation and distribution of funds for the
16 said shelters along with recommendations for legislation.