

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Karen E. Spilka

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 Promote Reusable Energy Use in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Karen E. Spilka

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Middlesex and Norfolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. S01801 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO PROMOTE REUSABLE ENERGY USE IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

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 62 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 official edition, is hereby
2 amended by adding the following new section:

3 Section 6M. (a) An owner of residential property located in commonwealth shall be allowed a
4 one-time credit against tax imposed by Chapter 62 of the General Laws for all energy efficient
5 items purchased on or after September 1, 2008, but not later than March 31, 2009, for installation
6 in said property. The credit allowed for such purchases for installation in any 1 residential
7 building shall equal 50 per cent of the cost; provided further, that said credit shall not exceed
8 \$1000 for residential dwelling or \$1,500 for a multi-unit dwelling. Joint owners of a residential
9 property shall share any credit available to the property under this section in the same proportion
10 as their ownership interest.

11 (b) The credit allowed under this section may be taken in taxable years between 2008 and 2009,
12 regardless of the exact date on which any qualifying purchases were made. The amount of credit
13 that exceeds the total tax due for the taxable year in which the credit is taken may be carried
14 over, as reduced, and applied against the tax liability for the next taxable year; in no taxable year
15 shall the amount of the credit allowed exceed the total tax due of the taxpayer for the relevant
16 taxable year.

17 (c) The commissioner of revenue shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be
18 necessary for the implementation of this section. The commissioner shall also include in such
19 rules and regulations eligibility provisions for a taxpayer who owns a condominium or a
20 cooperative dwelling and for whom such purchases are accounted for in a common area fee or
21 special assessment against such costs as may be reasonably attributed to the proportionate
22 ownership share of the condominium or cooperative dwelling costs. The department shall file a
23 copy of any rules and regulations with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives and
24 with the joint committee on revenue.

25 (d) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings:

26 "Energy efficient heating items", shall include, but not be limited to, home insulation, new
27 window installation, advanced programmable thermostats, fuel efficient furnaces, boilers,
28 alternative fuel heating systems, solar domestic hot water systems, materials for insulation or
29 sealing of a duct, attic, basement, rim joint or wall and pipe insulation for heating systems.

30 "Net expenditure", the total of the purchase price for all energy efficient items, plus installation
31 cost, less any credits received pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code, any grants or rebates

32 received from the United States department of housing and urban development, and any rebates
33 or discounts received from an electric utility or gas utility.

34 SECTION 2. Chapter 59 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 official edition, is hereby
35 amended by adding the following section:

36 Section 58B: (1) Property equipped with solar, geothermal, wind, water, or fuel cell energy
37 systems for the purpose of heating, cooling or generating electrical energy, where said systems
38 were installed on or after January 1, 2008, shall be exempt from ad valorem taxation in an
39 amount that equals any positive amount obtained by subtracting the real market value of the
40 property as if it were not equipped with such systems, from the real market value of the property
41 so equipped.

42 (2) This section applies to tax years beginning prior to July 1, 2012.

43 (3) This section does not apply to property owned or leased by any individual or legal entity
44 whose principal business activity is directly or indirectly the production, transportation or
45 distribution of energy.

46 SECTION 3. Section 6(d) of chapter 62 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 official
47 edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 22, the words “or one thousand dollars” and
48 inserting in place thereof, the following words:- “or three thousand dollars”.