

SENATE No. 1624

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Eileen M. Donoghue

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:

An Act relative to cultural facilities grants.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Eileen M. Donoghue</i>	<i>First Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel A. Wolf</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>

SENATE No. 1624

By Ms. Donoghue, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1624) of Eileen M. Donoghue, Daniel A. Wolf, Karen E. Spilka and Ann-Margaret Ferrante for legislation relative to cultural facilities grants. Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to cultural facilities grants.

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 23G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by striking out in section 42 the definition of “cultural facility” and inserting
3 in place thereof the following definition:-

4 “Cultural facility”, a building, structure or site that is, or will be, owned, leased or
5 otherwise used by 1 or more cultural organizations and that is accessible to the public and
6 exempt from income taxation pursuant to section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The
7 term cultural facility may include, but shall not be limited to, museums, historical sites, zoos,
8 aquariums, nature or science centers, theaters, concert halls, exhibition spaces, classrooms and
9 auditoriums suitable for presentation of performing or visual arts. Municipally owned buildings,
10 structures or sites must be a minimum of 50,000 square feet in size, of which at least 50 per cent
11 is used as a cultural facility. However, if such municipally owned building, structure or site is
12 125 years old or older and is significant in the history, archeology, architecture or culture of the
13 nation, the commonwealth or the community in which it is located and is located within a state-
14 designated Cultural District, as established by section 58A of chapter 10 of the General Laws, it
15 may be of any size. Public or private institutions of higher education may qualify if they
16 demonstrate that their cultural facility provides service and open access to the community and
17 the general public outside of the regular educational mission of the public or private institute of
18 higher education and demonstrates financial need.