SENATE. . . . . . No. 1635

By Mr. Tarr (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1635) of the Citizens for Limited Taxation, by Barbara Anderson, co-director, Demetrious J. Atsalis and Shirley Gomes for legislation to provide for the return to the taxpayers of the proceeds from the nationwide tobacco settlement. Taxation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO RETURN TOBACCO SETTLEMENT DOLLARS TO THE TAXPAYERS.

Whereas, Health related and other costs due to tobacco-related illnesses, legal tort actions and other tobacco related expenses, were paid with money expropriated from the taxpayers of the Commonwealth; the funds windfall that results from Massachusetts' share of the nationwide tobacco settlement shall be returned to the taxpayers of the Commonwealth as compensatory reimbursement and restitution.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. All funds received by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts from the tobacco settlement shall be appropriated into the Commonwealth Tax Reduction Fund and used to increase the personal exemption.

SECTION 2. This act will take effect for, and the increase in the personal exemption applied to, Tax Year 1999 and all years thereafter.