

HOUSE No. 1425

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Louis L. Kafka

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the health of public safety officers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>James E. Timilty</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 1425

By Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1425) of Louis L. Kafka and others relative to the health of public safety officers exposed to hypodermic syringes or hypodermic needles. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1413 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)

An Act relative to the health of public safety officers.

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 263 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition is
2 hereby amended by adding after section 1A the following new sections:

3 Section 1B. Blood Testing

4 Anyone under arrest shall be subject to a blood test, provided that one or more public
5 safety personnel including but not limited to police officers, fire fighters or emergency medical
6 technicians (EMT) were or are suspected to have been exposed to potential blood-borne
7 pathogens. Exposure incidents include, but are not limited to, being stuck by a hypodermic
8 syringe, being stuck by hypodermic needle, or being bitten. The arrested individual shall be
9 tested immediately after arrest, and three months later, if the first test proved negative. The name

10 of the tested person shall be subject to a confidentiality agreement with the police safety
11 personnel who receives the result of the test, and the Department of Public Health shall maintain
12 a record of the test results to provide care to anyone infected.

13 Section 2: Chapter 270 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition is
14 hereby amended by adding after section 26 the following new sections:

15 Section 27. Hypodermic Syringes/Needles

16 The protective cap issued with all hypodermic syringes or hypodermic needles must be in
17 place at all times before and after use. Whoever violates any provision of this paragraph shall be
18 punished by imprisonment in jail or house of correction for not less than one nor more than two
19 years, or by a fine of not less than five hundred nor more than five thousand dollars, or both.