

HOUSE No. 1721

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Edward R. Philips

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:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Edward R. Philips</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/11/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 1721

By Representative Philips of Sharon, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1721) of Edward R. Philips 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. 1835 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

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 section:

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.