

HOUSE No. 2805

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Denise Provost

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 sleep deprivation avoidance and promotion of good sleeping practices.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Denise Provost

James B. Eldridge

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

27th Middlesex

Middlesex and Worcester

HOUSE No. 2805

By Ms. Provost of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2805) of Denise Provost and James B. Eldridge for the annual issuance of a proclamation by the Governor setting apart the second week of March as Massachusetts Sleep Awareness Week. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to sleep deprivation avoidance and promotion of good sleeping practices.

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 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof, the following new sections:

3 Section 15 P P P P P. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the
4 second week of March as Massachusetts Sleep Awareness Week, and the Sunday at the
5 beginning of Daylight Savings Time, so called as Massachusetts Sleep Awareness Day and
6 recommending that such week be properly observed as a period of special attention to the
7 problems of sleep deprivation and fatigue such as: impaired reaction time, judgment and vision;
8 problems with information processing and short-term memory; decreased performance, vigilance
9 and motivation; increased moodiness and aggressive behaviors; and, especially, the dangers of
10 driving under the influence of sleep deprivation or fatigue. To this end, the agencies of the
11 Commonwealth as well as private organizations, especially those interested in education,
12 transportation, public health, and public safety, shall adopt policies and programs consistent with

13 the goals of: (1) increasing public awareness about sleep, sleep disorders, and consequences of
14 sleep deprivation; (2) promoting science-based public policies that improve the sleep health of
15 the nation; (3) advancing basic, clinical, applied, and population-based research; and promoting
16 recognition of and access to care for all individuals with sleep disorders.

17 Section 15 QQQQQ. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the
18 second week of November as Massachusetts Drowsy Driving Prevention Week and
19 recommending that such week be properly observed as a period of special attention to the need
20 for public awareness and action relative to the problems of drowsy driving and driver fatigue.
21 For purposes of this section “drowsy driving” or “driver fatigue” shall mean driving while being
22 “sleepy,” “tired,” “drowsy,” or “exhausted.”