

HOUSE No. 00537

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Stephen Kulik

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 bill:

An Act to protect volunteer firefighters from dismissal.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>
<i>Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Cleon H. Turner</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>Paul Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>
<i>Viriato Manuel deMacedo</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>George N. Peterson, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>

HOUSE No. 00537

By Mr. Stephen Kulik of Worthington, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 00537) of Paul Mark and others for legislation to protect volunteer firefighters from dismissal by their employers. Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to protect volunteer firefighters from dismissal.

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.

2 Section 177B of Chapter 149 of the General Laws, as appearing in the ____ Official Edition, is
3 hereby amended in the second paragraph by striking out the following:

4 “As used in this section, “responding to an emergency” shall mean responding to,
5 working at the scene of, or returning from a fire or call of fire in the good faith belief that such
6 action is necessary to prevent the imminent loss of life or property, where either such fire or such
7 call of fire occurs during a period other than normal working hours of the employee”.

8 And inserting in place thereof the following new sentence:

9 “As used in this section, “responding to an emergency” shall mean responding to,
10 working at the scene of or returning from a fire, rescue, emergency medical service call,

11 hazardous materials incident, or a natural/man-made disaster or a call of a fire, rescue,
12 emergency medical service call, hazardous materials incident or natural/man-made disaster in the
13 good faith belief that such action is necessary to prevent the imminent loss of life or property,
14 where such emergency occurs during a period other than normal working hours of the
15 employee.”

16 SECTION 2.

17 Section 177B of Chapter 149 of the General Laws, as appearing in the ____ Official Edition, is
18 hereby amended in the first paragraph by adding the words “or ambulance department” after the
19 words “fire department” each time such words appear.

20 SECTION 3.

21 Section 177B of Chapter 149 of the General Laws, as appearing in the ____ Official Edition, is
22 hereby amended in the second sentence of the second paragraph by adding the words “or
23 Emergency Medical Technician” after the word “firefighter”.