

HOUSE No. 1306

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul K. Frost and Michael O. Moore

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 veterans' grave markers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Kevin J. Kuros</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>
<i>Leah Cole</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i>	<i>8th Plymouth</i>
<i>Barbara L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>

<i>Thomas P. Kennedy</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>

HOUSE No. 1306

By Representative Frost of Auburn and Senator Moore, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1306) of Paul K. Frost and others relative to penalties for the unauthorized sale of veterans' grave markers. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to veterans' grave markers.

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

1 Chapter 272 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 73A the
2 following section:-

3 Section 73B. (a) Whoever sells or attempts to sell a veteran’s grave marker, other than a
4 person authorized by law to sell such a marker, shall be punished by a fine of not more than
5 \$5,000.

6 (b) Whoever receives, retains or disposes of a veteran’s grave marker or other structure or
7 thing designed to commemorate the grave of a veteran, which the person knows or should know
8 to be stolen, shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$5,000; provided, however, that no
9 such penalty shall be imposed upon a person who receives or retains such veteran’s grave marker
10 or other structure or thing with the intent to return it to a cemetery, a member of law
11 enforcement, a member of the department of veterans services or a non-profit veterans’ services

12 group, or a veteran's agent of a town, or upon a person who in fact disposes of such veteran's
13 grave marker or other structure or thing in a like manner.

14 (c) upon the second or more offenses, whoever sells or attempts to sell a veteran's grave
15 marker, other than a person authorized by law to sell such a marker, shall be punished by
16 imprisonment in the state prison for not more than five years or by imprisonment in the jail or
17 house of correction for not more than two and one-half years and by a fine of not more than five
18 thousand dollars.