

HOUSE No. 1554

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shawn Dooley

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 mandatory sentences for those committing an assault on a law enforcement officer.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/3/2021</i>
<i>John Nelson</i>	<i>Massachusetts Coalition of Police P.O. Box 768 Milbury, MA 01572</i>	<i>2/3/2021</i>
<i>Larry Calderone</i>	<i>Boston Patrolmen Union 295 Freeport St. Dorchester, MA 02122</i>	<i>2/3/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 1554

By Mr. Dooley of Norfolk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1554) of Shawn Dooley, John Nelson and Larry Calderone relative to mandatory sentences for those committing an assault on a law enforcement officer. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to mandatory sentences for those committing an assault on a law enforcement officer.

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 265 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2016 Official Edition
2 is hereby amended by inserting after Section 15F the following new section:-

3 Section 15G. As used in this section, “law enforcement officer”, defined as the
4 Massachusetts State Police; police officers employed by cities and towns of the Commonwealth
5 of Massachusetts; Sheriffs’ Departments, House of Correction, Courts, the Environmental Police,
6 the Massachusetts Department of Corrections, and the Massachusetts Trial Court, college and
7 university campus police, and any other in the commonwealth that are charge with the
8 enforcement of laws, the operation of jails or prisons, or the custody of detained persons.

9 As used in this section, “firefighter”, refers to any officer or firefighter employed by a
10 fire department as established in Chapter 48, Section 42A of the General Laws, and the state fire
11 warden or any duly authorized assistant of the state fire warden.

12 Whoever commits an assault or an assault and battery upon a law enforcement officer or
13 firefighter by discharging a firearm, rifle, shotgun, sawed-off shotgun, assault weapon, or covert
14 weapon while said officer is engaged in the performance of duties, and who knows or has reason
15 to know that the individual is a law enforcement officer or firefighter shall be punished by a term
16 of imprisonment not less than 10 years up to life imprisonment in the state prison. No sentence
17 imposed under the provisions of this paragraph shall be suspended nor shall it be for less than a
18 mandatory minimum term of imprisonment of 10 years and a fine of not more than \$150,000
19 may be imposed but not in lieu of the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment, as established
20 herein. Prosecutions commenced under this section shall neither be continued without a finding
21 nor placed on file.