

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1672**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Timothy R. Whelan***

*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 to enhance safety on public ways.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Robert L. Hedlund</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>
<i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps Lee</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>Leonard Mirra</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>
<i>Mathew Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>

*Kevin J. Kuros*

*8th Worcester*

*David F. DeCoste*

*5th Plymouth*

*Paul K. Frost*

*7th Worcester*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1672**

By Mr. Whelan of Brewster, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1672) of Timothy R. Whelan and others for legislation to the penalty for blocking public ways and disrupting traffic. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to enhance safety on public ways.

*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 266 is hereby amended by inserting the following section, as Section 120G:

2 Whoever knowingly, not being authorized by a written permit issued by the  
3 municipality,

4 stands or remains in or on any public way with the intent or effect of disrupting traffic  
5 thereon, or whoever causes another to do the same, or whoever erects or places on a public way  
6 any barrier of any sort so that traffic might be affected, shall be punished by a sentence by  
7 imprisonment in the House of Correction for not more than one year, and a fine of not more than  
8 \$2,500.

9 A conviction or findings of sufficient facts on any charge brought under this section  
10 shall be prima facie evidence of liability in any action brought in connection with the following:

11                   a. Any damage to any property, whether privately or publicly owned, including but  
12 not limited to vehicles;

13                   b. Any continuing injury, illness, or death reasonably attributable to a delay in  
14 receiving medical or emergency services caused by prohibited actions in this section

15                   c. Any property loss suffered that is reasonably attributable to the delay in  
16 response of emergency vehicles to any emergency.