

HOUSE No. 2124

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 propane detectors.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>

HOUSE No. 2124

By Mr. Dooley of Norfolk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2124) of Shawn Dooley and others for legislation to require that residential buildings be equipped with propane detection alarms. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to propane detectors.

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. Section 26F of Chapter 148 of the General Laws, is hereby amended by
2 adding the following section:

3 (a) Every dwelling, building or structure, including those owned or operated by the
4 commonwealth, occupied in whole or in part for residential purposes, that: (1) contains propane
5 burning equipment including, but not limited to, a furnace, boiler, water heater, fireplace or any
6 other apparatus, appliance, or device that burns propane shall be equipped by the owner with
7 working, approved propane detection alarms in conformance with the requirements of the board
8 of fire prevention regulations; provided, however, that such requirements shall include, but not
9 be limited to, a requirement that a landlord or superintendent shall install either approved
10 monitored battery-powered alarms or approved electrical wiring alarms as defined by the board,
11 as are required to make the alarms operational at the beginning of any rental period by lease or
12 otherwise and shall maintain and, if necessary, replace batteries or such battery-operated or

13 electric hardwired carbon monoxide alarms annually thereafter to insure their continued
14 operability.

15 (b) The board of fire prevention regulations shall promulgate such regulations as may be
16 necessary to effectuate this section including, but not limited to, the type, installation, location,
17 maintenance and inspection requirements of propane alarms.

18 (c) Every dwelling, building or structure, occupied in whole or in part for residential
19 purposes that has propane, shall, upon sale or transfer of such dwelling, building or structure, be
20 inspected by the head of the fire department for compliance with the requirements of this
21 section.”

22 (d) The state building code may impose stricter propane alarm requirements for new
23 construction or dwellings, buildings, or structures substantially renovated so as to constitute the
24 equivalent of new construction. Every such dwelling building or structure, occupied in whole or
25 in part for residential purposes, shall, upon sale or transfer of such dwelling, building or
26 structure, be inspected by the head of the fire department for compliance with the propane alarm
27 requirements of the state building code in effect on the date of the issuance of the relevant
28 building permit.

29 (e) The head of the fire department shall enforce this section.

30 (f) The department of public health shall promulgate such rules and regulations as may be
31 necessary to effectuate subsection (a) into the state sanitary code as established under section
32 127A of chapter 111.