

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2169**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*James M. Murphy*

*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 prohibiting the possession and use of cell phones and or electronic transmission devices by inmates of correctional institutions.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*James M. Murphy*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*4th Norfolk*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2169**

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2169) of James M. Murphy for legislation to prohibit the possession and use of cell phones and electronic transmission devices by inmates of correctional institutions. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE  
□ HOUSE  
□ , NO. 2918 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

An Act prohibiting the possession and use of cell phones and or electronic transmission devices by inmates of correctional institutions.

*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 15 of chapter 268 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008  
2 Official edition, is hereby amended by adding after the word “weapon” in line 3, the words “,  
3 cell phone or other handheld electronic transmission device”.

4 SECTION 2: Section 31 of chapter 268 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008  
5 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding after the word “article,” in line 4, the words  
6 “including a cell phone or any other handheld electronic transmission device,”

7 SECTION 3: Chapter 268 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition,  
8 is hereby amended by inserting after section 31 the following new section:

9 Section 31B. An inmate who is confined in any penal institution of the Commonwealth,  
10 or county jail or house of correction, including detainees held in custody while awaiting or on  
11 Trial, who is found to be in possession of a cell phone, or any other handheld electronic  
12 transmission device after initial intake into the facility and classification, whether determined to

13 be used by the inmate during any time of detention or incarceration or not, shall be punished by a  
14 term of sentence in the State prison of not less than one year and not more than 2 and one half  
15 years. Such sentence shall begin from and after all sentences currently outstanding and un-  
16 served at the time of said determination.