

HOUSE No. 00961

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harold P. Naughton, Jr.

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 relative to the appointment of veterans agents and service officers..

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Harold P. Naughton, Jr.

12th Worcester

Mark Cusack

5th Norfolk

HOUSE No. 00961

By Mr. Naughton, Jr. of Clinton, petition (accompanied by Bill, House, No. 00961) of Harold P. Naughton, Jr. relative to the appointment of veterans agents and service officers. Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
□ HOUSE
□ , NO. 3382 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to the appointment of veterans agents and service officers..

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 3 of Chapter 115 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2000 Official
- 2 Edition, is
- 3 hereby amended by deleting the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following:-
- 4 The Mayor of each city, except Boston, and the selectmen of each town, shall appoint a veterans'
- 5 agent/veterans'
- 6 service officer to act for him or them in the disbursement of veterans' benefits by such city or
- 7 town; provided,

8 however, that in each town having a part time veterans' agent/veterans' service officer the town
9 clerk shall receive
10 applications and assist applicants for veterans' benefits, and shall submit said applications to the
11 veterans'
12 agent/veterans' service officer. Two or more contiguous towns may, by vote of the selectmen,
13 and subject to the
14 approval of the commissioner, appoint one full time veterans' agent/veterans' service officer and
15 such additional staff
16 as necessary, and may apportion the payment of compensation among such towns. The
17 appointment of a veterans'
18 agent/veterans' service officer shall not create a civil service position. Any person who is
19 appointed to the position
20 of veterans' agent/veterans' service officer and certified by the Massachusetts Department of
21 Veterans' Services as a
22 trained veterans' agent/veterans' service officer and who has held such position for not less than
23 three years, shall not
24 be involuntarily separated and shall have the same rights and protection granted to any veteran
25 under section 9A of
26 chapter 30 of the General Laws, notwithstanding that his or her prior appointments were for a
27 fixed term.