

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1326**

---

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*James E. Timilty*

*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 emergency first responder notification.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*James E. Timilty*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Bristol and Norfolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1326**

---

By Mr. Timilty, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1326) of James E. Timilty for legislation relative to the Massachusetts Emergency Information Program. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1106 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to emergency first responder notification.

*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 6A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding after section  
2 18L the following new section:-

3 Section 18M Massachusetts Emergency Information Program

4 (a) As used in this section, the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires  
5 otherwise, have the following meanings:—

6 "Disability," an individual's physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or  
7 more of the major life activities; a record of such impairment; or when the individual is regarded  
8 as having such an impairment.

9           “Major life activities,” include, but are not limited to, caring for oneself, performing  
10 manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, lifting, bending, speaking,  
11 breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, and working.

12           "Special needs individuals," those individuals who have or are at increased risk for a  
13 chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, or emotional condition and who also require health  
14 and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by individuals generally.

15           "Public safety agency," a functional division of a public agency that provides firefighting,  
16 police, medical, emergency management or other emergency services.

17           "Computer aided dispatch" or "CAD," a database maintained by the public safety agency  
18 or public safety answering point used in conjunction with 911 caller data.

19           "Emergency Information Program" or "EIP," a supplemental 911 and Emergency  
20 Management database to be used in emergency scenarios.

21           “Public Safety Answering Point” or “PSAP,” a call center responsible for answering calls  
22 to an emergency telephone number for police, firefighting, and ambulance services.

23           (b) The EIP shall be a hosted supplemental 911 and Emergency Management database  
24 and shall be used by all PSAPs and Emergency Management Agencies within the  
25 Commonwealth. This supplemental database should allow for individuals to provide information  
26 to be used in emergency scenarios and planning. The EIP service should: (1) Collect a variety of  
27 formatted data relevant to 911, Emergency Management, and other Public Safety agencies.  
28 Among other items, this information should include photographs of the individual, physical  
29 descriptions, medical conditions, allergies, household data, primary language indicator, and

30 emergency contacts (2) allow for information to be entered by individuals via a secure website  
31 where they can elect to provide as little or as much information as they choose. (3) Be compliant  
32 with all accessibility elements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (4) manage the  
33 currency of the data through an aging and reminder process, at least twice per year, requesting  
34 community members to keep their data up-to-date (5) Automatically display data provided by  
35 individuals to 911 call takers for all types of phones (Landline, Mobile, VoIP) when a call is  
36 placed to 911 from a registered and confirmed phone number (6) Support the delivery of  
37 community member information via a secure internet connection to all PSAPs within  
38 Massachusetts (7) service should work across all 9-1-1 call taking equipment in Massachusetts  
39 and allow for the easy transfer of information into Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) or Records  
40 Management Systems (RMS) (8) provide decision support to Emergency Management through  
41 the collection, aggregation, and visualization of community provided information via a hosted,  
42 web-based, geospatial interface (9) allow EIP data to be made available at a city, county, state, or  
43 national level to help protect Massachusetts community members wherever they are with similar  
44 EIP databases already established within the United States (10) allow local communities the  
45 ability to tailor data collected based on their unique regional requirements (11) make data  
46 available to first responders (12) be designed to work in today's environment or future NG9-1-1  
47 systems.

48 (c) Public safety and Emergency Management agencies shall make reasonable efforts to  
49 publicize the Emergency Information Program (EIP). Means of publicizing the database may  
50 include, but are not limited to, pamphlets, social media, neighborhood watch programs,  
51 community policing programs, television, municipal notification systems and websites.

52 (d) When special needs information is made available with the 911 call, the  
53 telecommunicator shall, where appropriate, relay that information to responding personnel.

54 (e) The information gathered as part of EIP shall remain strictly confidential. The  
55 information shall be used only to provide assistance to 911 telecommunicators, first responders,  
56 and Emergency Management personnel. No public safety worker shall knowingly violate this  
57 confidentiality clause.

58 (f) Citizens electing to participate in EIP must be advised that the provision of special  
59 needs information will not result in preferential treatment.

60 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.