SENATE No. 00758

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Cynthia S. Creem

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 drug mandatory minimum sentences.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Cynthia S. Creem	First Middlesex and Norfolk
Elizabeth A. Malia	11th Suffolk
Thomas M. McGee	Third Essex and Middlesex
Ruth B. Balser	12th Middlesex
Jonathan Hecht	29th Middlesex
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Linda Dorcena Forry	12th Suffolk

SENATE No. 00758

By Ms. Creem, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 758) of Forry, Khan, Eldridge and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to drug mandatory minimum sentences [Joint Committee on the Judiciary].

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE

□ SENATE , NO. *1651* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to drug mandatory minimum sentences.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- SECTION 1. Section 32H of chapter 94C, as amended by Chapter 256 of the Acts of
- 2 2010, is hereby further amended by striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place
- 3 thereof the following two paragraphs:-
- 4 A person convicted of violating said sections shall not, until he shall have served the
- 5 mandatory minimum term of imprisonment established in said sections, be eligible for probation
- 6 or furlough; provided, however, that the commissioner of correction, on the recommendation of
- 7 the warden, superintendent or other person in charge of the correctional institution, or a sheriff,
- 8 on the recommendation of the administrator of a county correctional institution, may grant to
- 9 said offender a temporary release, subject to the rules and regulations of the institution and under

the direction, control and supervision of the officers thereof, for the following purposes: (1) to attend the funeral of a relative, to visit a critically ill relative, to obtain emergency medical or psychiatric services unavailable at said institution; (2) to participate in education, training, or employment programs established under section 48 of chapter 127; or (3) to participate in a program to provide services under section 49B or 49C of chapter 127. Section 87 of chapter 276 shall not apply to any person, 17 years of age or older, charged with a violation of said sections, or to any child between age 14 and 17, so charged by indictment under section 54 of chapter 119.

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, a person convicted of violating any provisions of sections 32, 32A, 32B, 32E, 32F, and 32J of chapter 94C, who is serving a sentence where two-thirds of the minimum term of imprisonment imposed is less than the mandatory minimum sentence required under that section shall be eligible for parole after serving two-thirds of the minimum term of imprisonment imposed.

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 32, 32A, 32B, 32E, 32F, and 32J of chapter 94C of the General Laws, or any other general or special law to the contrary, a persons serving a mandatory minimum sentence for a violation of any provision of said sections as of the effective date of this act, shall be eligible for parole after serving two-thirds of the minimum term of imprisonment imposed.