

SENATE No. 936

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

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 habitual drunk drivers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Bradford R. Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>
<i>Viriato M. deMacedo</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>
<i>Robert L. Hedlund</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>
<i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>

SENATE No. 936

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 936) of Bruce E. Tarr, Louis L. Kafka, Bradford R. Hill, Viriato M. deMacedo and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to habitual drunk drivers. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 819 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to habitual drunk drivers.

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. Subsection (b) of section 12 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2014 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking, in line 9, the figure
3 “\$500”, and inserting in place thereof the following:- “\$1,000”; and

4 further, by striking, in line 10, the figure “\$1,000”, and inserting in place thereof the
5 following :-“\$2,000”.

6 SECTION 2. Subsection (c) of said section 12 of said chapter 90 of the General Laws, as
7 so appearing, is hereby further amended by striking, in line 17, the figure “\$500”, and inserting
8 in place thereof the following:-“ \$1,000”; and

9 further, by striking, in line 18, the figure “\$1,000”, and inserting in place thereof the
10 following:- “2,000”.

11 SECTION 3. Section 23 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
12 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “finding.”, in line 118, the
13 following paragraph:-

14 If the defendant has been previously convicted or assigned to an alcohol or controlled
15 substance education, treatment, or rehabilitation program by a court of the commonwealth or any
16 other jurisdiction because of one or more like violations of the preceding paragraph preceding
17 the date of the commission of the offense, the defendant shall be punished by a fine of not less
18 than \$5,000 and imprisonment in the house of correction for not less than 2 years nor more than
19 2 ½ years by imprisonment in the state prison for not less than 2½ years nor more than 5 years,
20 with said sentence to be served consecutively to and not concurrent with any other sentence or
21 penalty. Such sentence shall not be suspended, nor shall any such person be eligible for
22 probation, parole, or furlough or receive any deduction from the sentence for good conduct until
23 the defendant shall have served said 2½ years of such sentence; provided, however, that the
24 commissioner of correction may, on the recommendation of the warden, superintendent or other
25 person in charge of a correctional institution, or of the administrator of a county correctional
26 institution, grant to an offender committed under this paragraph a temporary release in the
27 custody of an officer of such institution only to obtain emergency medical or psychiatric services
28 unavailable at said institution or to engage in employment pursuant to a work release program.
29 Section 87 of chapter 276 shall not apply to any person charged with a violation of this
30 paragraph. Prosecutions commenced under this paragraph shall not be placed on file or
31 continued without a finding.

32 SECTION 4. Said section 23 of said chapter 90 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
33 hereby further amended by adding the following paragraph:-

34 Notwithstanding this section or any other general or special law to the contrary, any
35 person convicted of operating a motor vehicle after such person's license or right to operate his
36 been revoked for life, or after notice of such lifetime revocation of the right to operate a motor
37 vehicle has been issued and received by such person or by such person's agent or employer, such
38 person shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$5,000 and by imprisonment in a house of
39 correction for not less than 1 year nor more than 2 ½ years or in state prison for not less than 2 ½
40 years nor more than 5 years; provided, however, that any person who operates a motor vehicle in
41 violation of paragraph (a) of subdivision (1) of section 24, sections 24G or 24L, subsection (a) of
42 section 8 of chapter 90B, sections 8A or 8B of chapter 90B or section 13½ of chapter 265, while
43 said person's license or right to operate has been revoked for life, or after notice of such lifetime
44 revocation of the right to operate a motor vehicle has been issued and received by such person or
45 by such person's agent or employer, such person shall be punished by a fine of not less than
46 \$10,000 and by imprisonment in state prison for not less than 3 years nor more than 10 years.
47 Sentences imposed pursuant to this paragraph shall not be suspended, nor shall any such person
48 be eligible for probation, parole, or furlough or receive any deduction from the sentence for good
49 conduct until the defendant shall have served 5 years of such sentence; provided, however, that
50 the commissioner of correction may, on the recommendation of the warden, superintendent or
51 other person in charge of a correctional institution, or of the administrator of a county
52 correctional institution, grant to an offender committed under this paragraph a temporary release
53 in the custody of an officer of such institution only to obtain emergency medical or psychiatric
54 services unavailable at said institution or to engage in employment pursuant to a work release

55 program. Section 87 of chapter 276 shall not apply to any person charged with a violation of this
56 paragraph. Prosecutions commenced under this paragraph shall not be placed on file or
57 continued without a finding.

58 SECTION 5. Section 24 of said chapter 90 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
59 hereby amended by striking, in line 145, the word “five”, and inserting in place thereof the
60 following word:- “ten”.