

SENATE No. 00966

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act to promote increased rates of employment .

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Bruce E. Tarr

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Essex and Middlesex

SENATE No. 00966

By Mr. Tarr, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 966) of Tarr for legislation to promote increased rates of employment [Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development].

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to promote increased rates of employment .

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule, or regulation to the
2 contrary, the Department of Labor and Workforce Development shall:

3 1) Conduct a review and analysis of the contribution to the unemployment trust fund
4 established pursuant to Chapter 151A of the General Laws by employers having various numbers
5 of employees, and determine the relative financial burdens imposed upon them according to
6 those numbers. In addition, said review and analysis shall evaluate, to the extent possible, any
7 adverse impacts upon marginal rates of employment caused by the levels of assessment currently
8 employed by Section 14 of said chapter.

9 2) Review and analyze the rate schedule contained in said chapter to determine its
10 continued viability and sustainability as a means of assessing employer contributions to the
11 unemployment trust contained in said chapter.

12 3) Based upon said reviews and analyses, develop recommendations for:

13 a. A rate schedule for employer contributions which is sustainable and avoids the
14 imposition of undue or avoidable hardships upon employers and levels of employment in the
15 Commonwealth, and maximizes the ability for employers to compete nationally and
16 internationally.

17 b. Modifications to the assessments charged against employers with fewer than 100
18 employees so as to increase the available resources available for job creation and to increase
19 rates of employment in the Commonwealth.

20 In carrying out the provisions of this act, the department shall conduct not less than three
21 public hearings in geographically diverse regions of the Commonwealth, and shall consult with
22 individuals and organizations representing employers, organized labor, not-unionized employees,
23 and academic institutions with expertise in economics and competitiveness.

24 The department shall report the findings and recommendations developed hereunder to
25 the clerks of the House and Senate not later than nine months following the passage of this act.