

SENATE No. 1601

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard T. Moore

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 sleep deprivation avoidance and promotion of good sleeping practices.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Richard T. Moore

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

SENATE No. 1601

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1601) of Richard T. Moore for legislation relative to sleep deprivation avoidance and promotion of good sleeping practices. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1436 OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to sleep deprivation avoidance and promotion of good sleeping practices.

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 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof, the following new sections:

3 Section 15 DDDDD. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting
4 apart the second week of March as Massachusetts Sleep Awareness Week, and the first Sunday
5 in March as Massachusetts Sleep Awareness Day and recommending that such week be properly
6 observed as a period of special attention to the problems of sleep deprivation and fatigue such as:
7 impaired reaction time, judgment and vision; problems with information processing and short-
8 term memory; decreased performance, vigilance and motivation; increased moodiness and
9 aggressive behaviors; and, especially, the dangers of driving under the influence of sleep
10 deprivation or fatigue. To this end, the agencies of the Commonwealth as well as private

11 organizations, especially those interested in education, transportation, public health, and public
12 safety, shall adopt policies and programs consistent with the goals of: (1) increasing public
13 awareness about sleep, sleep disorders, and consequences of sleep deprivation; (2) promoting
14 science-based public policies that improve the sleep health of the nation; (3) advancing basic,
15 clinical, applied, and population-based research; and promoting recognition of and access to care
16 for all individuals with sleep disorders.

17 Section 15 EEEEE. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting
18 apart the second week of November as Massachusetts Drowsy Driving Prevention Week and
19 recommending that such week be properly observed as a period of special attention to the need
20 for public awareness and action relative to the problems of drowsy driving and driver fatigue.
21 For purposes of this section “drowsy driving” or “driver fatigue” shall mean driving while being
22 “sleepy,” “tired,” “drowsy,” or “exhausted.”