HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1839 FILED ON: 1/17/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1602

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Angelo M. Scaccia

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 limited civil liability for sports officials.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Angelo M. Scaccia	*14th Suffolk*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 1602

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1602) of Angelo M. Scaccia relative to limited civil liability for sports officials. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. *2857* OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act relative to limited civil liability for sports officials.

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. Sports officials who officiate athletic contests at a level of competition in this State shall not be liable to any person or entity in any civil action for injuries or damages claimed to have arisen by virtue of actions or inactions related in any manner to officiating duties within the confines of the athletic facility at which the athletic contest is played.

SECTION 2. Sports officials are defined as those individuals who serve as referees, umpires, linemen, and those who serve in similar capacities but may be known by other titles and are duly registered or members of a local, state, regional or national organization which is engaged in part in providing education and training to sports officials.

SECTION 3. Nothing in this law shall be deemed to grant the protection set forth to sports officials who cause injury or damage to a person or entity by actions or inactions which are intentional, willful, wanton, reckless, malicious or grossly negligent.

SECTION 4. This law shall take effect immediately, and shall apply to all lawsuits filed after the effective date of this law, including those which allege actions or inactions of sports officials which occurred prior to the effective date of this law.