HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 591 FILED ON: 1/13/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2469

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Martin J. Walsh

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 to provide an interest arbitration alternative for firefighters.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Martin J. Walsh	*13th Suffolk*
Christopher G. Fallon	*33rd Middlesex*
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	*12th Hampden*
Thomas J. Calter	*12th Plymouth*
Colleen M. Garry	*36th Middlesex*
Thomas P. Conroy	*13th Middlesex*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 2469

By Mr. Walsh of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2469) of Martin J. Walsh and others for legislation to provide an interest arbitration alternative for fire fighters. Public Service.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. *1668* OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act to provide an interest arbitration alternative for firefighters.

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

In the event that a collective bargaining agreement between a city, town, district or authority and a firefighter union, as provided for in this chapter and Chapter 589 of the Acts of 1987, has expired, and the parties have been unable to reach a successor collective bargaining agreement more than 90 days after expiration of said agreement, than either party may file a petition for interest arbitration with the American Arbitration Association, or some other neutral agency agreed to by the parties, for the purpose of resolving said collective bargaining impasse.

The arbitrator selected pursuant to the rules of the American Arbitration Association, or some other neutral agency, shall forthwith contact the parties and promptly arrange for such meetings, conferences, and arbitration hearings as necessary in order to bring about a final disposition of said collective bargaining impasse; provided, however, that the arbitrator's authority shall be limited to those matters authorized by Section 4A of Chapter 589 of the Acts of 1987 and provided further that the decision of the arbitrator so appointed shall be final and binding provided, however, that in the event that two-thirds of the legislative body of the town, city, or district involved, vote to reject such award, such award shall not be binding upon the parties, and shall be returned to the arbitrator initially selected for further proceedings.

16 The procedures set forth herein, if invoked, shall divest the Joint Labor-Management
17 Committee, pursuant to Chapter 589 of the Acts of 1987, from exercising authority over such
18 collective bargaining disputes that proceed pursuant to this section.

19 Should an award, made pursuant to this section, be rejected by the legislative body as
20 provided herein, the arbitrator selected shall retain jurisdiction over this matter and shall take
21 appropriate action as a result of said rejection, including, but not limited to conducting further
22 mediation, conducting further hearings, and/or issuing a revised award.