

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3177**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Carlo Basile*

*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 improve veterans home modifications.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Carlo Basile</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	<i>1/11/2013</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>1/14/2013</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/14/2013</i>
<i>Martin J. Walsh</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/14/2013</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2013</i>
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>	<i>1/16/2013</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>	<i>1/15/2013</i>
<i>Kathi-Anne Reinstein</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/15/2013</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>	
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>	
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Dennis A. Rosa</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	
<i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i>	<i>8th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/22/2013</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>1/23/2013</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>	
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>	

<i>Christopher G. Fallon</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	
<i>Mark J. Cusack</i>	<i>5th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Angelo M. Scaccia</i>	<i>14th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>7th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>	
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>	
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>	
<i>Thomas P. Conroy</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3177**

By Mr. Basile of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3177) of Carlo Basile and others for legislation to establish a program for assisting certain disabled veterans in making home modifications. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

An Act to improve veterans home modifications.

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

1           Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to  
2 provide forthwith benefits to certain veterans, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency  
3 law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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

6           SECTION 1. Chapter 115 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2010 official edition is  
7 hereby amended by inserting after section 5, the following section:-

8           Section 5A. A veteran who has either: 1) lost a limb or limbs or 2) lost the use of a limb  
9 or limbs, while serving in the military, shall receive benefits for the purpose of home  
10 modification from the commonwealth. The benefit provided to said veteran shall be used to  
11 provide any modification, including but not limited to special fixtures or movable facilities,  
12 made necessary by the nature of the veteran's disability. Said benefit shall, subject to  
13 appropriation, be available for the modification of every owner-occupied or rented dwelling,  
14 dwelling unit, mobile dwelling unit or rooming house unit in which the veteran resides and shall  
15 not exceed \$75,000. The commissioner of veterans' services shall promulgate rules and  
16 regulations necessary for the identification of eligible veterans and the awarding of home  
17 modification benefits.