

SENATE No. 1003

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sal N. DiDomenico

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 promoting the public health through workplace safety for social workers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Sal N. DiDomenico	Middlesex and Suffolk
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	26th Middlesex
Daniel A. Wolf	Cape and Islands
Michael J. Rodrigues	First Bristol and Plymouth
Harriette L. Chandler	First Worcester
James B. Eldridge	Middlesex and Worcester
Michael F. Rush	Norfolk and Suffolk
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	12th Hampden
Lori A. Ehrlich	8th Essex
Kenneth J. Donnelly	Fourth Middlesex
Stanley C. Rosenberg	Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester
Anthony W. Petrucci	First Suffolk and Middlesex
Katherine M. Clark	Fifth Middlesex
Marc R. Pacheco	First Plymouth and Bristol
Marjorie C. Decker	25th Middlesex
Michael O. Moore	Second Worcester
Brian A. Joyce	Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth
Thomas M. McGee	Third Essex

<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

SENATE No. 1003

By Mr. DiDomenico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1003) of Sal N. DiDomenico, Timothy J. Toomey, Jr., Daniel A. Wolf, Michael J. Rodrigues and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to workplace safety for social workers. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3864 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act promoting the public health through workplace safety for social workers.

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

1 The executive office of health and human services shall by regulation require that
2 programs providing direct services to clients and operated by or licensed, certified, or funded by
3 a department or division of the executive office of health and human services (“programs”)
4 establish a workplace violence prevention and crisis response plan for social workers, human
5 services workers, volunteers, and all other employees.

6 Programs shall assess and annually review factors that may put social workers, human
7 services workers, volunteers, and all other employees at risk of workplace violence. Factors shall
8 include, but need not be limited to working outside normal business hours; working alone;
9 working with people in crisis; and working with people with known histories of violent behavior.

10 Based on the assessment and subsequent annual review, the program shall: (a) establish a
11 system for centrally recording all incidents of workplace violence or threats of workplace
12 violence against social workers, human services workers, volunteers, and all other employees;
13 (b) prepare a written violence prevention and crisis response plan that includes measures the
14 program intends to take to respond to any incident of workplace violence against human services
15 workers; (c) provide each worker with a copy of the violence prevention and crisis response
16 plan; (d) implement training to educate social workers, human services workers, volunteers, and
17 all other employees about workplace violence and ways to reduce risks; and (e) develop and

18 maintain a violence prevention and response team to monitor ongoing compliance with the
19 violence prevention and crisis response plan and to assist any social workers, human services
20 workers, volunteers, and all other employees victimized by or threatened with workplace
21 violence.