

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James J. Lyons, Jr., (BY REQUEST)

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 the Chinese New Year.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Stephanie Yang</i>	<i>21 Wethersfield Drive Andover, MA 01810</i>	<i>10/20/2015</i>

HOUSE No.

By Mr. Lyons of Andover (by request), a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Stephanie Yang for legislation to recognize the Chinese New Year as a legal holiday. Labor and Workforce Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to the Chinese New Year.

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. Section 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after clause Fifth B the following clause:-

3 Fifth C, “the Chinese New Year”, February 8, 2016, January 28, 2017, February 16,
4 2018, February 5, 2019, January 25, 2020, February 12, 2021, February 1, 2022, January 22,
5 2023, February 10, 2024, January 29, 2025, February 17, 2026, February 6, 2027, January 26,
6 2028, February 13, 2029, February 3, 2030 and an annual date thereafter to be designated by the
7 Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China in New York.

8 SECTION 2. Said section 7 of said chapter 4, as so appearing, is hereby further amended
9 by inserting after the word “February”, in line 98, the following words:- , the Chinese New Year.

10 SECTION 3. Section 13 of chapter 136 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
11 amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following
12 paragraph:-

13 The provisions of sections 5 to 11, inclusive, shall, except as provided in section 14,
14 apply to all legal holidays, except January first, the third Monday in January, the third Monday in
15 February, the Chinese New Year, March seventeenth, the third Monday in April, May twentieth,
16 June seventeenth, the second Monday in October after the hour of twelve noon, and November
17 eleventh after one o'clock post meridian, or on the day following when any of said days occur on
18 Sunday; provided, however, work shall be voluntary, except for healthcare and public safety
19 personnel, on the Chinese New Year and refusal to work in any place of business or retail
20 establishment on such date shall not be grounds for discrimination, dismissal, discharge,
21 reduction in hours, or any other penalty.