

SENATE No. 1881

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Karen E. Spilka

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 greater protection in registry of motor vehicle hearings.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Karen E. Spilka

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Middlesex and Norfolk

SENATE No. 1881

By Ms. Spilka, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1881) of Karen E. Spilka for legislation to provide greater protection in registry of motor vehicle hearings. Transportation.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1703 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to provide greater protection in registry of motor vehicle hearings.

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. Subsection (a) of section 22 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the
3 following paragraph:-

4 The registrar may not suspend or revoke the license of any operator on suspicion of that
5 person having a mental or physical handicap, unless a qualified medical doctor or emergency
6 medical technician petitions the registrar in writing with medical evidence that the operator is
7 unsafe to drive. Any operator whose license is suspended or revoked on suspicion of mental or
8 physical handicap is entitled to a hearing within three business days, but may postpone said
9 hearing for up to thirty days at the operator’s discretion.

10 SECTION 2. Subsection (b) section 22 of chapter 90 of the General Laws, as appearing
11 in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new
12 paragraph:

13 In any hearing where a licensee’s potential suspension or revocation is due in whole or in
14 part to the operator’s physical or mental handicap, the hearing shall be held within 14 days of the
15 event which prompted the registrar to initiate said hearing, unless otherwise agreed upon by the
16 involved parties. The registrar will consider all written and oral submissions by any interested
17 parties at said hearing, and any and all medical evidence offered shall be made public for
18 purposes of said hearing only. Any public record of said hearing shall have any and all medical
19 evidence redacted, and any person, entity or agency present at said hearing that later
20 disseminates said medical evidence without permission from the operator shall be liable to the
21 operator for a sum of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000 for each violation under this
22 section. For purposes of said hearing, medical evidence shall only be accepted if reported or
23 recorded by a qualified, licensed medical professional. The registrar shall notify the involved
24 parties in writing of his decision whether or not to revoke the operator’s license no later than 7
25 days after the hearing.