SENATE DOCKET, NO. 915 FILED ON: 1/15/2015

SENATE . . . . . No. 952

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James T. Welch

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 increased penalties for assault, assault and battery, stalking, and criminal harassment at youth sporting events.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
James T. Welch	*Hampden*

SENATE DOCKET, NO. 915 FILED ON: 1/15/2015

SENATE . . . . . No. 952

By Mr. Welch, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 952) of James T. Welch for legislation relative to increased penalties for assault, assault and battery, stalking, and criminal harassment at youth sporting events. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. *837* OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to increased penalties for assault, assault and battery, stalking, and criminal harassment at youth sporting events.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after Section 13M, the following section:

Section 13N: Assault and battery at a youth sporting event; definitions; penalties

(1) Definitions:

(a) "Youth sporting event" means any event, including but not limited to games, practices, and scrimmages, sanctioned by a town, school district, county, the Commonwealth, or any other athletic association recognized by the Commonwealth.

(2) Whoever commits an assault or an assault and battery pursuant to c. 265 §13A on another at any sanctioned youth sporting event as defined in subsection (1)(a) of this section, shall be punished by imprisonment in the house of correction for not less than 90 days nor more than 2 ½ years or by a fine of not less than $500 nor more than $5,000 or both.

SECTION 2. Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 43A, the following sections:

Section 43B: Stalking at a youth sporting event; penalties

(1) Whoever engages in stalking pursuant to c. 265 §43 at any sanctioned youth sporting event as defined in c. 265 §13N(1)(a), shall be punished by imprisonment in the house of correction for not less than 60 days nor more than 5 years or by a fine of not less than $500 nor more than $5,000 or both.

Section 43C: Criminal harassment at a youth sporting event; penalties

(1) Whoever commits criminal harassment pursuant to c. 265 §43A at any sanctioned youth sporting event as defined in c. 265 §13N(1)(a), shall be punished by imprisonment in the house of correction for not less than 30 days nor more than 5 years or by a fine of not less than $500 nor more than $5,000 or both.