

HOUSE No. 1242

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Edward F. Coppinger

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 critical incident intervention by emergency service providers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Edward F. Coppinger</i>	<i>10th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/19/2017</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	
<i>Daniel Cahill</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>	
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>	
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>	
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>	
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	

<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	
<i>Daniel J. Hunt</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>	
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	
<i>Paul Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Thomas P. Walsh</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>	
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>	
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Larry Calderone</i>	<i>Boston Police Patrolmen's Association, Inc. 9-11 Shetland Street, Boston, MA 02119</i>	<i>2/6/2017</i>
<i>Michael Muse</i>	<i>Boston Police Detective Benevolent Society 435 Hyde Park Avenue Roslindale, MA</i>	<i>2/6/2017</i>
<i>John E. Nelson</i>	<i>Mass Coalition of Police AFL-CIO Council PO Box 768, Millbury MA, 01527</i>	<i>2/6/2017</i>

HOUSE No. 1242

By Mr. Coppinger of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1242) of Edward F. Coppinger and others relative to critical incident intervention by emergency service providers. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2113 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to critical incident intervention by emergency service providers.

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 The general Laws are hereby amended by adding the following chapter:
2 Chapter 148B“ EMERGENCY SERVICE CRITICAL INCIDENT PROVIDERS
3 CONFIDENTIALITY

4 Section 2. Definitions:

5 “Critical Incident” means an event (or events) that result in acute or cumulative
6 psychological stress or trauma to an emergency service provider as a result of response to the
7 incident.

8 “Emergency Service Provider” means any law enforcement officer, civilian law
9 enforcement employees such as emergency dispatchers, sheriff or deputy sheriffs, state police,
10 firefighters, and emergency medical personnel.

11 “Critical Incident stress management” means a process of crisis intervention designed to
12 assist emergency service personnel in coping with the psychological trauma resulting from
13 response to a critical incident.

14 “Critical Incident stress management and crisis intervention services” means
15 consultation, counseling, debriefing, defusing, intervention services, management, prevention,
16 and referral provided by a critical incident management team member or participant.

17 “Critical Incident stress management team” means the group of one or more trained
18 volunteers or participants who offer critical incident stress management and response services
19 following a critical incident.

20 “Critical Incident stress management team member” or “team member” means an
21 individual specially trained to provide critical incident stress management and response services
22 as a member of an organized and registered team. The “Team” will be registered with ICISF and
23 maintain training standards to date as required. Team members shall consist of but not limited to
24 law enforcement officers, firefighters, or medical services providers. All members sworn and
25 civilian shall be designated by the police chief, or sheriff, or commander of the state police, or
26 fire chief, or director of emergency services.

27 Section 3.

28 Except as provided under the exceptions of confidentiality in subsections (2a), (2b), (2c),
29 no person, whether critical incident stress management team member, team leader or other
30 participant providing or receiving crisis intervention shall be required to testify or divulge any
31 information obtained solely through such crisis intervention and any information divulged to the
32 team or a team member during the provision of a critical incident intervention service must be
33 kept confidential and may not be disclosed to a third party unless:

34 (3a) the communication indicates the existence of a danger to the individual who
35 receives crisis response services or to any other person or person:

36 (3b) the communication indicates the existence of past child abuse or neglect of the
37 individual, abuse of an adult as defined by law, or family violence as defined by law:

38 (3c) the communication indicates the existence of past or present acts constituting an
39 intentional tort or crime, provided the applicable statute of limitation has not expired on the act
40 indicated