

HOUSE No. 1250

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shawn Dooley

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 American Sign Language Training.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Shawn Dooley

9th Norfolk

Todd M. Smola

1st Hampden

HOUSE No. 1250

By Mr. Dooley of Norfolk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1250) of Shawn Dooley and Todd M. Smola for legislation to provide sign language training for public safety personnel and emergency medical personnel. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3477 OF 2015-2016.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to American Sign Language Training.

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 165 of chapter 6 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after clause (6) the following clause:-

3 (7) the establishment of training and on-going education courses that allow for basic
4 understanding of American Sign Language by all levels of fire service personnel.

5 SECTION 2. Section 20 of chapter 22C of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
6 amended by inserting after the word “program”, in line 5, the following words:- ; provided that
7 such training program shall include courses that allow for basic understanding of American Sign
8 Language.

9 SECTION 3. Said section 20 of said chapter 22C, as so appearing, is hereby further
10 amended by inserting after the word “police”, in line 6, the following words:- ; provided that
11 such in-service training program shall include courses that allow for basic understanding of
12 American Sign Language.

13 SECTION 4. Section 9 of chapter 111C of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
14 amended by inserting after the word “chapter”, in line 17, the following words:- ; and unless
15 such person or any person providing, operating or participating in an ambulance service has
16 successfully completed courses that allow for basic understanding of American Sign Language."

17 SECTION 5. Said chapter 111C, as so appearing, is hereby further amended by adding
18 the following section:-

19 Section 26. The department shall designate certain American Sign Language courses as
20 eligible for continuing education credits required pursuant to this chapter.