HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2151 FILED ON: 1/19/2017

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2329

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James M. Murphy

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 improving courthouse safety.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
James M. Murphy	*4th Norfolk*	*1/19/2017*
Bruce J. Ayers	*1st Norfolk*	*10/10/2018*
John C. Velis	*4th Hampden*	*10/10/2018*

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By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2329) of James M. Murphy, Bruce J. Ayers and John C. Velis for legislation to allow court officers to carry firearms within the premises of the court or the immediate vicinity thereof. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act improving courthouse safety.

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. Section 70A of chapter 221 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following sentence:-

"Pursuant to said police powers, court officers may carry within the premises of the court or in the immediate vicinity thereof such weapons as the chief justice of the trial court, the chief justice of the supreme judicial court or the chief justice of the appeals court shall determine necessary. Provided, however, that, prior to being permitted to carry a firearm within a courthouse, a court officer shall have a license to carry pursuant to section 131 of chapter 140 or section 131F of chapter 140."

SECTION 2. Section 70A of chapter 221 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by striking, in lines 3-4, the words "the areas of the court to which they have been assigned;" and inserting in place thereof the following words:

"the premises of the court or in the immediate vicinity thereof"