

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1611**

---

**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 the payment of terminated employees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/10/2019</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>1/27/2019</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1611**

By Mr. Dooley of Norfolk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1611) of Shawn Dooley and Michael J. Soter relative to the payment of wages to terminated employees. Labor and Workforce Development.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1004 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to the payment of terminated employees.

*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 148 of chapter 149 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official  
2           Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 13 to 14, inclusive, the words “in full on the  
3           day of his discharge” and inserting in place thereof the following words:- on the next regularly  
4           scheduled pay period; provided, that it is not greater than 2 weeks from the date of discharged;  
5           provided, further, that if the next regular pay period is greater than 2 weeks, payment shall be  
6           issued prior to 2 weeks from the discharge date; and, provided that if a person having employees  
7           in his or her service does not comply with this provision such person shall be subject to  
8           imprisonment in the house of corrections for no more than 2½ years and the employee shall be  
9           entitled to treble damages; provided, however, that in case such person having employees is  
10          under bankruptcy protection, is considering bankruptcy protection or anticipates that they may

- 11 go out of business prior to this next pay date, such person having employees shall pay the
- 12 employee on date of discharge.