

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2319**

Senate, August 12, 2019 -- Message from His Excellency the Governor (pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts) returning with recommendation of amendment the engrossed Bill establishing a sick leave bank for Marilyn O'Neil, an employee of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (see Senate, No. 2301).

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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*August 9, 2019*

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives,

Pursuant to Article LVI, as amended by Article XC, Section 3 of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, I am returning to you for amendment Senate Bill No. 2301, "An Act establishing a sick leave bank for Marilyn O'Neil, an employee of the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security."

Sick leave banks are established to provide support to state employees who have exhausted all leave time due to serious medical challenges. Sick leave banks are funded by those employees' generous colleagues, who contribute their own vacation, sick or personal time. In this case, we have learned that the employee who is intended to receive the benefit of these contributions is employed at the Sex Offender Registry Board and not at the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, as was stated in the enacted legislation.

I therefore recommend that Senate Bill No. 2301 be amended by changing the title to reflect the fact that Ms. O'Neil is an employee of the Sex Offender Registry Board and further by striking out the text of the bill and inserting in place thereof the following text:-

Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Sex Offender Registry Board shall establish a sick leave bank for Marilyn O'Neil, an employee of the board. Any employee of the board may voluntarily contribute 1 or more sick, personal or vacation days to the sick leave bank for use by Marilyn O'Neil. If Marilyn O'Neil terminates employment with

the board or requests to dissolve the sick leave bank, any remaining time in the sick leave bank shall be transferred to the extended illness leave bank. Sick leave bank days shall not be used for absences unrelated to the illness or disability that necessitated the establishment of the sick leave bank as determined by the board.

Thank you for your prompt consideration of this proposed amendment.

Respectfully submitted

Charles D. Baker,  
*Governor*