

SENATE No. 1869

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patricia D. Jehlen

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 sleep deprivation avoidance and promotion of good sleeping practices.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Patricia D. Jehlen

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Middlesex

SENATE No. 1869

By Ms. Jehlen, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1869) of Patricia D. Jehlen for legislation relative to sleep deprivation avoidance and promotion of good sleeping practices. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1720 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to sleep deprivation avoidance and promotion of good sleeping practices.

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. Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting the
2 following new sections:-

3 Section 15 CCCCCC. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the
4 second week of March as Massachusetts Sleep Awareness Week, and the Sunday at the
5 beginning of Daylight Savings Time, so called as Massachusetts Sleep Awareness Day and
6 recommending that such week be properly observed as a period of special attention to the
7 problems of sleep deprivation and fatigue such as: impaired reaction time, judgment and vision;
8 problems with information processing and short-term memory; decreased performance, vigilance
9 and motivation; increased moodiness and aggressive behaviors; and, especially, the dangers of
10 driving under the influence of sleep deprivation or fatigue. To this end, the agencies of the

Commonwealth as well as private organizations, especially those interested in education, transportation, public health, and public safety, shall adopt policies and programs consistent with the goals of: (1) increasing public awareness about sleep, sleep disorders, and consequences of sleep deprivation; (2) promoting science-based public policies that improve the sleep health of the nation; (3) advancing basic, clinical, applied, and population-based research; and promoting recognition of and access to care for all individuals with sleep disorders.

Section 15 DDDDDD. The governor shall annually issue a proclamation setting apart the second week of November as Massachusetts Drowsy Driving Prevention Week and recommending that such week be properly observed as a period of special attention to the need for public awareness and action relative to the problems of drowsy driving and driver fatigue. For purposes of this section “drowsy driving” or “driver fatigue” shall mean driving while being “sleepy,” “tired,” “drowsy,” or “exhausted.”