

HOUSE No. 1489

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tackey Chan

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 providing for equitable rights to indemnity for public employees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>	<i>1/13/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 1489

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1489) of Tackey Chan for legislation to provide equitable rights to indemnity for public employees from personal financial loss and expenses. The Judiciary.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1374 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act providing for equitable rights to indemnity for public 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 1. Section 9 of Chapter 258, as most recently amended, is hereby further
2 amended by deleting from the first sentence of the first paragraph "may" and substituting "shall"
3 and by deleting from the last sentence of the first paragraph "grossly negligent" and substituting
4 therefore "wanton," so said first paragraph shall read:—

5 Public employers shall indemnify public employees from personal financial loss and
6 expenses, including legal fees and costs, if any, in an amount not to exceed one million dollars
7 arising out of any claim, action, award, compromise, settlement or judgment by reason of an
8 intentional tort, or by reason of any act or omission which constitutes a violation of the civil
9 rights of any person under any federal or state law; if such employee or official at the time of
10 such intentional tort or such act or omission was acting within the scope of his official duties or

11 employment. No such employee or official shall be indemnified under this section for violation
12 of any such civil rights if he acted in a wanton, willful or malicious manner.