

HOUSE No. 2709

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John J. Lawn, Jr.

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 Covid-19 complications for public safety employees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/18/2021</i>
<i>Jessica Ann Giannino</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 2709

By Mr. Lawn of Watertown, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2709) of John J. Lawn, Jr., Jessica Ann Giannino and Elizabeth A. Malia relative to Covid-19 complications for public safety employees. Public Service.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to Covid-19 complications for public safety 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 Chapter 41 shall be amended by adding the following section:

2

3 Section 100C; Upon written application by any of its police officers or firefighters retired
4 either before or after the acceptance of this section; or in the event of the death of any such
5 police officer or firefighter, upon written application by his widow or, if he leaves no widow, by
6 his next of kin, any municipality shall indemnify such police officer or firefighter or, in the event
7 of his death, his widow, or if he leaves no widow, his next of kin, for all reasonable hospital,
8 medical and surgical, chiropractic, nursing, pharmaceutical, prosthetic and other related expenses
9 and reasonable charges incurred by such police officer or firefighter after his retirement relating
10 to ongoing treatment or complications relating to Covid-19 or its variant contracted as a work-
11 related illness; provided, however, that no person shall be indemnified under this section unless
12 a majority of the members of a panel consisting of (a) the chairman of the retirement board of the

13 city or town, (b) the city solicitor, town counsel or other officer having similar duties or a person
14 designated in writing by such solicitor, counsel, or officer to act for him, and (c) such physician
15 selected by agreement of the city or town manager and the retiree's physician, upon receipt from
16 the applicant of due proof, certify:—(1) that the expenses for which indemnification is sought
17 were the natural and proximate result of Covid-19 or its variant contracted as a work-related
18 illness; (2) that such expenses were incurred after the acceptance of this section; (3) that the
19 hospital, medical and surgical, chiropractic, nursing, pharmaceutical, and/or prosthetic to which
20 such expenses relate were rendered within six months before the filing of the application; (4) that
21 such expenses are reasonable under all the circumstances.

22 Provided further that this section shall additionally cover State Police officers through the
23 Executive Office of Public Safety.