

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James Arciero

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 emergency hazard health duty.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/10/2025</i>
<i>Tara T. Hong</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>

HOUSE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2286 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act relative to emergency hazard health duty.

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 Notwithstanding any general or special law, rule or regulation to the
2 contrary, any public safety official, which shall include any individuals employed as police, fire
3 personnel, correction officers, dispatchers, emergency medical technicians, paramedics, nursing
4 professionals, and all individuals employed and considered as 1st responders, who contract, have
5 symptoms of, or otherwise becomes affected by the Coronavirus (COVID-19), that results in a
6 period of hospitalization, quarantine, or require self-quarantined measures as a result of being
7 infected or coming into contact with someone who is infected with this virus, shall have their
8 medical condition or incapacity to work presumed to be work-related. The amount of time said
9 public safety official is incapacitated or unable to perform their duties as a result of the
10 Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection or exposure and the required time of hospitalization, time of
11 quarantine or time of self-quarantine shall be considered as on duty time, and said public safety

12 official shall not be required to use sick time, vacation time, personal time or any other
13 contractual time-off to cover said period of incapacitation or inability to perform regular duty
14 work. This time of incapacitation or inability to perform their duties shall be considered as
15 "emergency hazard health duty," or, in the case of employees to which it applies, be covered
16 under G.L. c. 41, Section 111F.