

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Nick Collins

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 increased safety standards in the construction industry.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Nick Collins

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Suffolk

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to increased safety standards in the construction industry.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Notwithstanding any or special law to the contrary, the appropriate agencies of the
2 commonwealth shall develop regulations to increase standards that address safety issues in the
3 construction industry;

4 Area of review for regulations shall include but not be limited to the following:

5 Craft workers

6 • 40 hours of safety training by an approved training provider, with a 10-hour refresher
7 completed on an annual basis

8 Craft foreperson

9 • 62 hours of safety training by an approved training provider, with a 10-hour refresher
10 competed on an annual bases

11 Site safety manager licensing

12 • For any project over 50,000 square feet a Site Safety Manager is required to be on-site
13 at all times

14 • To be a site safety manager you must have:

15 (i) Minimum 5 years construction safety experience

16 (ii) 40 hours SSM course

17 (iii) Safety experience background check

18 (iv) Knowledge test: 80% correct to pass

19 (v) Physical exam for fitness

20 (vi) 3 year refresher

21 Concrete, steel, excavation, façade

22 • 62-hours of safety training by an approved training provider, with a 10-hour refresher
23 completed on an annual bases

24 Site safety and demolition plan review and enforcement

25 • Require major building and demolition projects to prepare and keep current a site safety
26 plan. The plan, and subsequent updates, should be reviewed and approved by the Authority

27 Having Jurisdiction and is required to be on site for inspector review

28 Scaffolding

29 • Minimum requirements for the design, permitting, erection, maintenance, and
30 disassembly of supported and suspended scaffolds.

31 • Standards include stamped and filed drawings by a licenses design professional, use of
32 licensed master rigger for erection and dismantling of suspended scaffolds, worker training,
33 debris netting and scaffold access

34 Concrete formwork

35 • Minimum standards for the design, erection, and inspection of concrete formwork

36 • Site specific drawings to be prepared by registered design professional

37 • Engineered designs submitted for review/ approval and on site for inspectors

38 Protection of unenclosed perimeter façade

39 • Minimum requirements for perimeter protection prior to façade installation

40 • Permitted drawing by licensed design professional, requires vertical and horizontal
41 safety netting or better to be installed and maintained at all unenclosed perimeters

42 Enhancement of sidewalk shed public protection

43 • Minimum standards for the design, permitting, erection, inspection, and maintenance of
44 sidewalk shed including adjoining property protection

45 • Mandatory sidewalk sheds and site scaffolding for all projects in the boston area

46 Inspection and enforcement

47 • Provide additional resources to inspection enforcement agencies to hold all General
48 Contractors to elevated safety standards

- 49 • These city and state workers who have the authority to inspect project for safety
- 50 compliance per the required documentation and permitting
- 51 Retain experienced inspectors
- 52 • Reclassify local building inspectors as Massachusetts public safety official to help
- 53 retain experienced experts in high-risk Boston environments