

Tagging & Vandalism



S.727 An Act Relative to Tagging

S.728 An Act Relative to the Penalty for Vandalism

Summary

- 1 Tagging is defined under the law as “Whoever sprays or applies paint or places a sticker upon a building, wall, fence, sign, tablet, gravestone, monument or other object or thing on a public way or adjoined to it, or in public view, or on private property...”
- 2 Vandalism is defined as “Whoever intentionally, willfully and maliciously or wantonly, paints, marks, scratches, etches or otherwise marks, injures, mars, defaces or destroys the real or personal property of another including but not limited to a wall, fence, building, sign, rock, monument, gravestone or tablet...”
- 3 S.727 Removes the penalty of a drivers license suspension for those found guilty of “tagging.”
- 4 S.728 Removes the penalty of a drivers license suspension for those found guilty of "vandalism".

The bill was sponsored by Senator William N. Brownsberger (D-Belmont)



Senator William N. Brownsberger
@WBrownsberger
Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary



This Legislation was passed on
April 14, 2016



Bill Passed Yeas 28 to Nays 7

STATUS



Sent to House

The Senate continues its mission to review and revise Massachusetts laws to align with national best practices. These bills aim to further reduce recidivism, prison population, and taxpayer costs while enhancing public safety.

RESPONSE



"Advocates for the offenders say removing someone's license makes it harder for them to hold down a job and support their family without returning to crime."

- *Masslive*

"The Senate has been actively reforming the criminal justice system to reduce recidivism, adopt best practices and produce better outcomes."

- *Wicked Local, Medford*



INFOGRAPHICS

**MA Senate
PASSES**

**An Act Relative
to Tagging**

S.727

**Removes the one year drivers license
suspension penalty for tagging and vandalism**

**MA Senate
PASSES**

**An Act Relative
to Vandalism**

S.728