

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3712**

By Mr. Naughton of Clinton, petition of Harold P. Naughton, Jr., and others relative to the appointment of veterans agents and service officers. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PETITION OF:

Harold P. Naughton, Jr.	Joseph R. Driscoll
Jennifer M. Callahan	Christine E. Canavan
Michael F. Rush	Robert K. Coughlin
Thomas M. Stanley	Anne M. Gobi
Colleen M. Garry	Jeffrey Davis Perry
Mary S. Rogeness	Elizabeth A. Poirier
Barbara A. L'Italien	Allen J. McCarthy
James E. Vallee	Denise Provost
Susan Williams Gifford	William C. Galvin

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE APPOINTMENT OF VETERANS AGENTS AND SERVICE OFFICERS.

*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 3 of Chapter 115 of the General Laws, as appearing in the  
2 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by deleting the first para-  
3 graph and inserting in place thereof the following:—  
4 The Mayor of each city, except Boston, and the selectmen of each  
5 town, shall appoint a veterans' agent/veterans' service officer to act  
6 for him or them in the disbursement of veterans' benefits by such  
7 city or town; provided, however, that in each town having a part  
8 time veterans' agent/veterans' service officer the town clerk shall  
9 receive applications and assist applicants for veterans' benefits, and  
10 shall submit said applications to the veterans' agent/veterans'  
11 service officer. Two or more contiguous towns may, by vote of the  
12 selectmen, and subject to the approval of the commissioner, appoint  
13 one full time veterans' agent/veterans' service officer and such addi-

14 tional staff as necessary, and may apportion the payment of compen-  
15 sation among such towns. The appointment of a veterans' agent/vet-  
16 erans' service officer shall not create a civil service position. Any  
17 person who is appointed to the position of veterans' agent/veterans'  
18 service officer and certified by the Massachusetts Department of  
19 Veterans' Services as a trained veterans' agent/veterans' service  
20 officer and who has held such position for not less than three years,  
21 shall not be involuntarily separated and shall have the same rights  
22 and protection granted to any veteran under Section 9A of Chapter  
23 30 of the General Laws, notwithstanding that his or her prior  
24 appointments were for a fixed term.