

HOUSE No. 2258

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:
Sarah K. Peake

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 passage of the accompanying bill:
An Act relative to the possession of firearms by people with dementia.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|----------------|-------------------|
| Sarah K. Peake | 4th Barnstable |
| Denise Provost | 27th Middlesex |
| Bill Bowles | 2nd Bristol |
| Paul McMurtry | 11th Norfolk |
| Cory Atkins | 14th Middlesex |
| Kay Khan | 11th Middlesex |

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the Year Two Thousand and Nine
—————

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE POSSESSION OF FIREARMS BY PEOPLE WITH DEMENTIA.

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

SECTION 1. Section 129B of chapter 140 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by: removing the word “or” in line71, and inserting after the word “jurisdiction” in line73, the following:— or

(x) is or has been under treatment for alzheimer’s dementia or any other form of dementia.

SECTION 2. Said chapter 140 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 129D the following section:—

Section 129E. A physician treating a person for alzheimer’s dementia or any other type of dementia shall inquire if such person possesses any firearms. If the answer is in the affirmative, the physician shall notify the chief of police of the city or town where the patient resides. The chief shall take action to revoke any firearm identification cards and to remove all such firearms. No physician shall be liable in any civil or criminal action for providing such information.