

By Ms. Gardner of Holliston, petition of Barbara Gardner and Lida E. Harkins for legislation to require a certificate of competency issued by the Department of Public Safety to persons conducting blasting operations. Public Safety.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Nine.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO BLASTING TRAINING.

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

1 Chapter 148 section 20B as appearing in the 1986 Official  
2 Edition is hereby amended by striking out said section and  
3 inserting in place thereof the following new section.  
4 Section 20B. No person shall conduct blasting operations  
5 unless he holds a certificate of competency issued by the  
6 department. Any person desiring to obtain a certificate of  
7 competency to conduct blasting operations shall make application  
8 to the department. The application shall be in such form and  
9 contain such information as the state fire marshal may require.  
10 The department in consultation with The Explosive Advisory  
11 Board shall establish examination criteria; said criteria shall  
12 contain, at minimum, language mandatory written and oral  
13 examinations: requirement of two years served in apprenticeship  
14 under a licensed blaster: provisions for oral retesting every five  
15 years and a schedule as to when testing for applicants will be  
16 provided. The applicant shall be examined as to his experience  
17 and ability to conduct blasting operations, and if found by the  
18 examiner to be qualified in accordance with the prescribed  
19 examination procedure, he shall forthwith be issued a certificate  
20 of competency. Said certificate shall be valid throughout the  
21 commonwealth until the date of birth of the licensee occurring  
22 more than twelve months but not more than twenty-four months  
23 after the effective date of such license and may be renewed after  
24 its expiration without examination upon the payment of a fee,

25 as determined pursuant to the aforementioned chapter seven. If  
26 any such license or the renewal thereof expires in an even year,  
27 any subsequent renewal shall expire on the next anniversary of  
28 the licensee's date of birth occurring in an even year. If any such  
29 license or renewal thereof expires in an odd year, any subsequent  
30 renewal shall expire on the next anniversary of the licensee's date  
31 of birth occurring in an odd year. A license issued to a person  
32 born on February twenty-ninth shall, for the purposes of this  
33 section, expire on March first. Licenses not renewed at the  
34 expiration date shall become void, and shall after one year be  
35 reinstated only by reexamination of the licensee. A notice of the  
36 date of expiration of a license shall, at least thirty days prior to  
37 such date, be sent to the licensee. If the applicant fails to qualify,  
38 five dollars of the fee paid with his application shall be refunded  
39 to him. A holder of a certificate of competency to conduct blasting  
40 operations whose certificate is lost, misplaced or stolen may  
41 obtain a duplicate certificate from the state fire marshal upon the  
42 payment of a fee as determined under the aforementioned  
43 provision.

44 A fee, the amount of which shall be determined annually by  
45 the commissioner of administration under the provision of section  
46 three B of chapter seven for filing thereof, shall accompany each  
47 application, said fee revenues shall be distributed equally to defray  
48 the expenses relative to conducting and examination and the cost  
49 of providing training for local fire chiefs in blasting procedures.