

By Mr. Caron of Springfield, petition of Paul E. Caron and James P. Jajuga for legislation to establish a protective firefighting-equipment loan program by the Commissioner of Public Safety, Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR A PROTECTIVE FIREFIGHTING-EQUIPMENT LOAN PROGRAM.

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 1. The commissioner of public safety shall
2 determine the number and type of firefighting vehicles in use in
3 the cities, towns, and districts of the commonwealth. Said
4 commissioner shall also determine the number and type of self-
5 contained breathing apparatus, so called, available to the
6 members of the fire departments maintained by said cities, towns
7 and districts. In making said determination, the commissioner is
8 hereby authorized to request such information as he deems
9 necessary from the appropriate officers in said cities, towns and
10 districts. Said officers shall provide such information in a timely
11 manner. Said commissioner shall make a report of his findings
12 by filing the same with the commissioner of administration and
13 with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives not later
14 than the first Monday in September, nineteen hundred and ninety.

1 SECTION 2. In any city, town or district accepting the
2 provisions of this act, the commonwealth shall, upon certification
3 by the commissioner of public safety, provide for sufficient self-
4 contained breathing apparatus, such that, in each city, town, or
5 district, the number of self-contained breathing apparatus
6 including any self-contained breathing apparatus available prior

7 to the effective date of such acceptance, shall equal the sum of
8 the number of individuals required to man each fire-fighting
9 vehicle in use in such city, town, or district, plus an additional
10 self-contained breathing apparatus for each such vehicle.

11 Any city, town, or district accepting the provisions of this act
12 and receiving from the commonwealth any such self-contained
13 breathing apparatus shall thereafter maintain such apparatus
14 consistent with standards for maintenance promulgated by said
15 commissioner, and shall make available the funds necessary for
16 such maintenance. Any such city, town, or district shall thereafter
17 purchase such additional self-contained breathing apparatus as
18 may be required to maintain a number of such apparatus in
19 operable condition as determined by said commissioner, at least
20 equal to the number of such apparatus determined to be required
21 pursuant to the first paragraph of this section.

22 Acceptance of this act by a city, town or district may not be
23 revoked. Cities, towns, and districts may accept this act at any
24 time up to and including the last Wednesday in June, nineteen
25 hundred and ninety.

26 The state purchasing agent, in consultation with said
27 commissioner, is authorized to purchase such breathing apparatus
28 as may be required to be provided to cities, towns, and districts
29 accepting this act, pursuant to the provisions of this section,
30 provided that such purchases shall be in an amount not to exceed
31 five million dollars, and provided further that no such purchase
32 shall be made except pursuant to schedules filed by said
33 purchasing agent and approved by the house and senate
34 committee on ways and means.

1 SECTION 3. To meet the expenditures necessary in carrying
2 out the provisions of section two of this act, the state treasurer
3 shall, upon the request of the state purchasing agent, with the
4 approval of the governor, issue and sell at public or private sale
5 bonds of the Commonwealth, registered or with interest coupons
6 attached, as he may deem best, to an amount to be specified by
7 the governor from time to time, but not exceeding in the aggregate,
8 the sum of five million dollars. All bonds issued by the
9 Commonwealth, as aforesaid, shall be designated on their face,
10 Firefighter Protective Equipment Fund Loan Act of 1990, and

11 shall be on the serial payment plan for such maximum term, not
12 exceeding twenty years, as the governor may recommend to the
13 general court pursuant to Section 3 of Article LXII of the
14 Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, the
15 maturities thereof to be so arranged that the amounts payable in
16 the several years of the period of amortization other than the final
17 year shall be as nearly equal as in the opinion of the state treasurer
18 it is practicable to make them. Said bonds shall bear interest
19 semiannually at such rate or rates as the state treasurer, with the
20 approval of the governor, shall fix. The initial maturities of such
21 bonds shall be payable not later than one year from the date of
22 issue thereof and the entire issue not later than June thirtieth, two
23 thousand and fourteen. Amounts raised by the issuance of bonds
24 hereunder shall be used only for the purposes provided in section
25 two.

