

SENATE No. 568

By Mr. Morrissey, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 568) of Michael W. Morrissey and Joseph C. Sullivan for legislation relative to the duties of the Commissioner of Veterans' Services, Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF VETERANS SERVICES.

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 115 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1990
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended in section 2 by adding at the
3 end of said section the following new paragraphs: —

4 The Commissioner of Veteran Services will have the authority
5 to assume the formal role of appellant and as such formally join in
6 or initiate complaints on behalf of individuals and/or groups of
7 veterans. Further, the Commissioner of Veterans Services shall be
8 granted access to any data relative to veterans issues, the overall
9 Human Service system, personnel practices and dispute resolution
10 proceedings which he believes may be impacting the condition of
11 veterans in the state workforce.

12 The Commissioner of Veteran Services will be provided on a
13 monthly basis a log of all complaints filed by veterans. This log
14 will include identification of the Secretariat, the Agency and the
15 nature of the complaint. This document will be used to assist the
16 Commissioner of Veterans Services in determining those issues
17 which he will elect to monitor directly or formally intercede in.

18 The Commissioner of Human Resources and the Commissioner
19 of Veterans Services will use the report to determine patterns of
20 unfair practices and as an indicator of Human Resource policies
21 having an adverse impact on veterans.

22 The Commissioner of Veterans Services will be granted upon
23 the request of any veteran the right to formally intercede as advo-
24 cate and representative of the veteran or group of veterans during
25 the dispute resolution process.

26 The Office of Veterans Services will be involved in the
27 development and implementation of all recruitment policies, job
28 training programs, and position vacancy posting procedures
29 affecting veterans access.

30 The Office of the Veterans Services will be included in and
31 Advisory Board and/or Special Commission convened by the
32 Commissioner of Human Resources to revise, modify, or
33 implement Human Resource policies affecting veterans.