

By Mr. Baddour, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2445) of Steven A. Baddour and Brian S. Dempsey for legislation relative to the inspection of air tanks. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Four.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE INSPECTION OF AIR TANKS.

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 39 of chapter 146 of the General Laws, as appearing in
2 the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the
3 entire section and inserting in place thereof the following lan-
4 guage:

5 Internal Inspection. Prior to conducting an internal inspection,
6 the air tank or other receptacle shall be prepared for inspection by
7 the owner or user. The inspection plugs, handhole plates and man-
8 hole plates if provided shall be removed. The interior shall be
9 cleaned of rust, scale, oil sludge and any other deleterious mate-
10 rial. A hydrostatic test shall be applied if required by the autho-
11 rized inspector. The pressure applied during the test shall be equal
12 to one and one-half times the pressure allowed on the air tank or
13 other receptacle. A hammer test may also be applied if there is no
14 pressure on the tank or receptacle.

15 Ultrasonic Thickness Determination. Ultrasonic thickness
16 determination shall be permitted in lieu of, or in conjunction with,
17 internal inspection for air tanks or other receptacles. Such thick-
18 ness determinations shall be made in at least eight areas: two on
19 each head and two on both the top (upper) and bottom (lower)
20 portions of the shell. The inspector's employer shall be respon-
21 sible for the inspector's competency in the use of the ultrasonic
22 thickness gage. Only ultrasonic thickness gages approved by the
23 Board shall be used.

