

By Mr. Wetherbee of Pepperell, petition of Bruce E. Wetherbee for legislation to prohibit discrimination in employment due to age. Commerce and Labor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO PROHIBIT AGE DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT.

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. Chapter 149 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking section 24A and substituting therefor.

3 *Section 24A.* It is hereby declared to be against public policy to
4 dismiss from employment or to refuse to employ any individual
5 because of his age.

1 SECTION 2. Section 5 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, as
2 most recently amended by chapter 1183 of the acts of 1973, is
3 hereby amended by adding the following: —

4 1) Notwithstanding any provisions of this chapter to the con-
5 trary no employee of the commonwealth shall be required to retire
6 for superannuation upon attaining the maximum age for his group
7 provided that

8 a) the employee files an application to continue in his current
9 position with the board more than 90 days prior to such retirement
10 and

11 b) either in the opinion of the board or that of a licensed
12 physician the individual is physically and mentally fit to perform
13 the duties of his position and

14 c) a written recommendation from the employee's direct super-
15 visor and a written statement from the head of his department that
16 the continuation of employment is desirable for the efficient con-
17 duct of the state's business.

18 Such continuation shall be permitted for a period of two years.
19 At the end of a two year period the employee may continue to
20 reapply for two years extensions. The board shall issue rules and
21 regulations under chapter thirty A necessary to implement sub-
22 sections (l) through (m).

23 (m) any employee who continues work beyond superannuation
24 under subsection (l) shall be permitted to change positions of
25 employment with the commonwealth.

26 (n) any employee who continues work beyond superannuation
27 under the provisions, of (l), shall upon actual retirement be treated
28 for the purpose of determining his retirement allowance as though
29 he had retired for superannuation on the date his employment
30 actually terminates. As long as he continues to work for the com-
31 monwealth he shall be entitled to all benefits the job position and
32 his seniority would entitle him notwithstanding his continued em-
33 ployment beyond superannuation.