

By Mr. Rushing of Boston, petition of Byron Rushing, Stephen Kulik, Michael W. Morrissey, Ellen Story and Carol A. Donovan for legislation to provide for retirement credit for "sabbatical leave" for faculty members of higher education of the Commonwealth. Public Service.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR SABBATICAL LEAVES.

*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. Section 1 of Chapter 32 of the General Laws, as  
2 appearing in the 1994 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 adding the following definition:—

4 "Sabbatical Leave", leave which the applicable public college  
5 or university has determined will contribute to the development of  
6 the faculty member or professional employee in areas of teaching,  
7 research, creative or scholarly activity; and/or professional  
8 service, and hence will contribute to the institution as a whole  
9 upon the return to the institution for at least one year following  
10 the academic year in which said leave takes place.

1 SECTION 2. Subdivision (1) of Section 4 of Chapter 32, as so  
2 appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following:—

3 (r) Creditable service in the case of any member shall include  
4 the period of any sabbatical leave awarded at a public institution  
5 of higher education to a faculty member or professional employee  
6 regardless of whether the sabbatical leave is granted with full or  
7 partial compensation. For the purposes of this chapter, no more  
8 than one year of creditable service for sabbatical leave shall be  
9 granted every seven years of employment for said faculty member  
10 or professional employee.

