

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

PAUL HEROUX STATE REPRESENTATIVE

2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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RE: H110 An Act to increase the Commonwealth's compliance with federal law meeting

requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act

DT: 29 September 2015

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities,

Thank you for hearing H110, An Act to increase the Commonwealth's compliance with federal law meeting requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act before your committee on July 14th.

This bill would require that all State contractors, in order to be eligible for State projects, to have in place a program or a plan to hire more workers who have a disability. The rate of unemployment for the disabled population in Massachusetts is higher than both the state average unemployment and the national rate of unemployment for the disabled population. Massachusetts has always been a leader in advocating for those with disabilities. This would send a clear signal that we as a Commonwealth want to employ all residents of the Commonwealth that want to work and are able to.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that H110, An Act to increase the Commonwealth's compliance with federal law meeting requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act be released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

Paul Heroux