



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASSACHUSETTS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE BOSTON, MA 02133

RE: H3039 An Act relative to motor vehicle license suspension
DT: 15 July 2015

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Transportation,

Thank you for hearing *H3039, An Act relative to motor vehicle license suspension* before your committee today. I am a proud co-sponsor of this bill and an active member of the Drug Law Reform Caucus.

This bill would strike the law that requires the suspension of a driver's license for up to five years after a drug-related arrest. These drug-related arrests are often unrelated to operating a vehicle. This is an additional punishment after the person has served their time in a correctional facility and serves as a barrier to successful reentry into society. Without a driver's license, transportation to and from a job is difficult and can be impossible in areas without a reliable mass transit system. Under current statute, the driver's license can be reinstated after paying a \$500 fee. This feeds into a vicious cycle where a person cannot earn the income necessary to have their license reinstated because they do not have the ability to get to a job without a driver's license.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that *H3039, An Act relative to motor vehicle license suspension* be released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P Heroux".

Representative Paul Heroux