

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Walsh, Marian (SEN)

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to the equitable taxation of manufacturing corporations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

|DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. S01840 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE EQUITABLE TAXATION OF MANUFACTURING CORPORATIONS.

*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 33 of chapter 63 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2000 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by deleting the word “corporations.”, in the first sentence and
3 inserting in place thereof the following words:- corporations, provided that wherever a controlled
4 group of corporations exists as defined in section 1563 of the Internal Revenue Code, there shall
5 be a presumption that all payments to the parent corporation or affiliated corporation are in
6 excess of fair value and that fair compensation was not included for all commodities sold to or
7 services performed for the parent corporation or affiliated corporations.

8 SECTION 2. Subsection (l) of section 38 of chapter 63 is hereby amended by striking out
9 paragraph (3) and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

10 (3) As used in this paragraph, the following words shall, unless the context otherwise requires,
11 have the following meaning:

12 “Base period employment level,” the number of qualified employees in this commonwealth of
13 the manufacturing corporation as of December 31, 1995, and the number of non-qualified
14 employees in this commonwealth of the manufacturing corporation as of December 31, 1995,
15 determined separately.

16 “Non-qualified employment level,” the number of non-qualified employees of the manufacturing
17 corporation in the taxable year.

18 “Qualified employment level,” the number of qualified employees of the manufacturing
19 corporation in the taxable year.

20 “Non-qualified employee in the commonwealth,” an individual who: (i) is employed by a
21 manufacturing corporation; (ii) works on a full-time basis with a normal week of 30 or more
22 hours; (iii) at the inception of the employment relationship does not have a termination date
23 which is either a date certain or determined with reference to the completion of some specified
24 scope of work; (iv) is eligible to receive employee benefits including, but not limited to, paid
25 holidays, vacation and unemployment benefits; and (v) is subject to Massachusetts income tax
26 withholding. Three or fewer individuals who collectively fulfill the requirement of clause (ii)
27 and who each meet the requirements of clauses (i), (iii), (iv), and (v) shall be counted as one
28 qualified employee for purposes of this section.

29 “Qualified employee in the commonwealth,” an individual who: (i) is employed by a
30 manufacturing corporation; (ii) works on a full-time basis with a normal week of 30 or more

31 hours; (iii) at the inception of the employment relationship does not have a termination date
32 which is either a date certain or determined with reference to the completion of some specified
33 scope of work; (iv) is eligible to receive employee benefits including, but not limited to, paid
34 holidays, vacation and unemployment benefits; (v) is subject to Massachusetts income tax
35 withholding; (vi) is employed working in the manufacturing corporation's manufacturing
36 operations; and (vii) is not working in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional
37 capacity under the provisions of 29 U.S.C. 213(a)(1). Three or fewer individuals who
38 collectively fulfill the requirement of clause (ii) and who each meet the requirements of clauses
39 (i), (iii), (iv), (v), (vi), and (vii) shall be counted as one qualified employee for purposes of this
40 section.

41 (i) If for any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2000 but before January 1, 2001, a
42 manufacturing corporation's non-qualified employment level is less than 80% of its base period
43 employment level, or its qualified employment level is less than 80% of its base period
44 employment level, the corporation shall instead be required to apportion its taxable net income
45 for such taxable year to the commonwealth in accordance with subsection (c).

46 (ii) If for any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2001 but before January 1, 2002, a
47 manufacturing corporation's non-qualified employment level is less than 82.5% of its base
48 period employment level, or its qualified employment level is less than 82.5% of its base period
49 employment level, the corporation shall instead be required to apportion its taxable net income
50 for such taxable year to the commonwealth in accordance with subsection (c).

51 (iii) If for any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2002 but before January 1, 2003, a
52 manufacturing corporation's non-qualified employment level is less than 85% of its base period

53 employment level, or its qualified employment level is less than 85% of its base period
54 employment level, the corporation shall instead be required to apportion its taxable net income
55 for such taxable year to the commonwealth in accordance with subsection (c).

56 (iv) If for any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2003 but before January 1, 2004, a
57 manufacturing corporation's non-qualified employment level is less than 87.5% of its base
58 period employment level, or its qualified employment level is less than 87.5% of its base period
59 employment level, the corporation shall instead be required to apportion its taxable net income
60 for such taxable year to the commonwealth in accordance with subsection (c).

61 (v) If for any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2004 but before January 1, 2005, a
62 manufacturing corporation's non-qualified employment level is less than 90% of its base period
63 employment level, or its qualified employment level is less than 90% of its base period
64 employment level, the corporation shall instead be required to apportion its taxable net income
65 for such taxable year to the commonwealth in accordance with subsection (c).

66 (vi) If for any taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2005, a manufacturing corporation's
67 non-qualified employment level is less than 90% of its base period employment level, or its
68 qualified employment level is less than 90% of its base period employment level, the corporation
69 shall instead be required to apportion its taxable net income for such taxable year to the
70 commonwealth in accordance with subsection (c).

71 SECTION 3. Sub-section (a) of section 44 of chapter 151A is amended by inserting after the
72 word "year.", in the first sentence the following words:- The commissioner shall maintain
73 suitable records for each employer, including but not limited to the number of qualified and non-

74 qualified employees as defined by section 38(1)(3) of chapter 63 employed by that employer in
75 the commonwealth during each year.

76 SECTION 4. Section 45 of said chapter 151A is amended by deleting the word “chapter.”, in the
77 first sentence and inserting in place thereof the following words:-chapter, including but not
78 limited to the number of qualified and non-qualified employees as defined by section 38(1)(3) of
79 chapter 63 employed by that employer in the commonwealth during each year.