

HOUSE No. 2267

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jon Santiago and Christopher J. Worrell

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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act regarding racism as a public health crisis in Massachusetts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Jon Santiago</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/17/2023</i>
<i>Christopher J. Worrell</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>	<i>8/23/2023</i>

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By Representatives Santiago of Boston and Worrell of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2267) of Jon Santiago and Christopher J. Worrell that the commissioner of the Department of Public Health declare racism as a public health crisis and direct the Office of Health Equity to develop policies to dismantle systemic racism impacting health. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**
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An Act regarding racism as a public health crisis in Massachusetts.

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. The commissioner of the Department of Public Health shall declare racism
2 as a public health crisis, and shall direct the Office of Health Equity to develop policies to
3 dismantle systemic racism impacting health; including, but not limited to, the implementation of
4 a health equity audit of services provided by the Department of Public Health, increasing health
5 data transparency regarding race/ethnicity, and establishing programs focused on the prevention
6 and treatment of chronic diseases disproportionately impacting communities of color. The Office
7 of Health Equity shall submit an annual report to the Commissioner of the Department of Public
8 Health and the Legislature on the state of systemic racism impacting public health.