

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives,

The committee on Bills in the Third Reading, to whom was referred the

Engrossed Bill establishing a hate crimes task force (see House, No. 4003) being section 6 contained in the bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2022 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions and certain activities of the commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund and serial bond requirements and for certain permanent improvements (see House, No. 4002), which was returned by His Excellency the Governor pursuant to Article LVI with recommendation of amendment specified by him, (see Attachment C of House, No. 4019)

Reports recommending that the amendment recommended by His Excellency, the Governor, be considered in the following form:

By striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:

“SECTION 1. Chapter 6 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 221. (a) There is hereby established a task force, to be known as the governor’s task force on hate crimes.

(b) The task force shall consist of the secretary of public safety and security or a designee, who shall serve as co-chair and up to 26 additional members, up to 19 of whom shall be appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor; 1 of whom shall be appointed by the attorney general; the chairs of the joint committee on the judiciary; the chairs of the joint committee on racial equity, civil rights, and inclusion; and the minority leaders of the house of representatives and senate. The task force may include representatives of victim assistance agencies; advocates for communities affected by hate crimes; the various district attorneys’ offices; state, local and university police departments; educators and students; and others with

expertise or experience in hate crimes issues. One of the persons appointed by the governor shall be designated by the governor to serve as co-chair.

(c) The task force shall advise the governor and legislature on issues relating to the prevalence, deterrence, and prevention of hate crimes in the commonwealth and the support of victims of hate crimes. Additionally, the task force shall:

(1) Promote full and effective cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and communities affected by hate crimes, to improve prevention, investigation, and prosecution of hate crimes;

(2) Develop best practices related to technical assistance for school districts that may seek to incorporate hate crime education into their curricula;

(3) Recommend policies, procedures and programs to ensure state and local government provide enhanced support for victims of hate crimes and their communities;

(4) Encourage and assist law enforcement agencies in hate crimes reporting pursuant sections 32 to 35, inclusive, of chapter 22C, including assistance in gathering, analyzing, and publishing hate crime reports;

(5) Encourage law enforcement agencies to enforce section 39 of chapter 265; and

(6) Recommend any appropriate legislation, regulations, policies or procedures to better combat hate crimes.

(d) The Task Force shall meet at least quarterly each year at the direction of the co-chairs, and shall submit to the governor, the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the senate and house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on the judiciary and the joint committee on public safety and homeland security an annual report that addresses the mission of the task force, targeted objectives, options and recommended actions, and metrics to measure the effect of such recommendations on hate crimes in the commonwealth.

(e) The co-chairs, as needed, may establish subcommittees comprised of members of the task force and non-members drawn from various groups and organizations with expertise or experience in hate crimes issues.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of July 1, 2021.”.

And that when so amended the same will be correctly drawn.

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For the Committee.