

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2284**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Nine**  
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An Act to prohibit inappropriate language use by sworn law officers..

*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. Whereas, the misuse of language of a racial, gender, ethnic, origin or  
2 religion nature has frequently led to violent confrontations; and

3                       Whereas, citizens have a God-given inalienable right not to be insulted by public  
4 servants whose compensation is provided by tax;

5                       Therefore, regardless to any act to the contrary, this act shall make it unlawful and  
6 a violation of oath-of-office for any sworn law officers, i.e., police officers, state police,  
7 correctional officers, court officers, environment police, sheriff deputies, or any other sworn law  
8 officer to use or engage in the use thereof, during, or in the line of or course of duty language  
9 which cast a negative reflection toward an individual’s race, color, ethnic origin, religion,  
10 economic status nor any other category of negative stereotyping.

11                      SECTION 2. No racial slurs, name-callings, nor profanity used directed toward  
12 another individual shall be used in the course of, during or in the line of duty, and any such use

- 13 of the same shall constitute a breach of the officer's sworn oath and shall constitute grounds for
- 14 dismissal from further duties as a law officer.