

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3538

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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 create the position of Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth of 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. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law, there is  
2   created the position of Poet Laureate of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

3           SECTION 2. The Poet Laureate shall be appointed by the Governor from a list of three  
4   nominees submitted to him by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Said nominee must be  
5   Massachusetts born or domiciled in Massachusetts at the time of nomination.

6           SECTION 3. The Council shall submit the list of three nominees to the Governor by  
7   February 1st. The Governor shall appoint the Poet Laureate within 30 days after receiving the  
8   list of nominees. The Poet Laureate shall be appointed to serve for a term of two years or until a  
9   successor is appointed and qualified as provided in this section.

10          SECTION 4. In the event of a vacancy in the Office of Poet Laureate, the vacancy shall  
11   be filled in the same manner as the original appointment, and the person so appointed shall serve  
12   until a successor is appointed and qualified as provided in this section.

13           SECTION 5. The Poet Laureate shall act as a public emissary and advocate for poetry in  
14 the state.

15           SECTION 6. The Poet shall be an honorary position and the person appointed shall  
16 receive no remuneration