

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 4356

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, July 28, 2014.

The committee on Ways and Means, to whom was referred the Senate Bill establishing the MetroWest commission on the status of women and girls (Senate, No. 1920), reports recommending that the same ought to pass with amendments striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text contained in House document numbered 4356; and by striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following title: "An Act establishing the MetroWest commission on the status of women".

For the committee,

BRIAN S. DEMPSEY.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen**  
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*By striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:*

1           "(a) There shall be a MetroWest commission on the status of women which shall consist  
2 of 9 persons to be appointed by the Massachusetts commission on the status of women  
3 established in section 3 of chapter 66 of the General Laws. The MetroWest commission shall  
4 conduct an ongoing study of all matters concerning women in MetroWest communities. The  
5 MetroWest commission shall report its findings to the commission on the status of women  
6 annually, not later than June 2, and shall recommend solutions to the problems facing women in  
7 MetroWest communities. The commission on the status of women shall make appointments to  
8 the MetroWest commission from a pool of applicants who reside in MetroWest communities.  
9 For the purpose of this act, MetroWest communities shall include: the towns of Ashland,  
10 Bellingham, Dover, Framingham, Franklin, Holliston, Hopkinton, Hudson, Maynard, Medfield,  
11 Medway, Millis, Natick, Needham, Norfolk, Northborough, Norwood, Sherborn, Southborough,  
12 Stow, Sudbury, Walpole, Wayland, Wellesley, Westborough, Weston and Wrentham, and the  
13 city of Marlborough.

14           (b) Members shall serve for 3-year terms and shall continue in office until their  
15 successors are appointed. Members shall not be reappointed for more than 2 consecutive terms;  
16 provided, however, that former members may reapply to serve on the commission after a year  
17 has passed since their last term. Of the initial members appointed to the MetroWest commission  
18 on the status of women, 3 members shall be appointed for a term of 1 year, 3 members shall be  
19 appointed for a term of 2 years and 3 members shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

20           (c) Vacancies in the membership of the MetroWest commission on the status of women  
21 shall be filled by the commission on the status of women for the balance of the unexpired term.

22           (d) In making appointments to the MetroWest commission on the status of women, the  
23 commission on the status of women shall consult with women's organizations. Nominations shall  
24 be solicited between August 1 and September 16 annually through an open application that is  
25 widely distributed throughout the MetroWest communities. Members of the commission shall be  
26 diverse and represent different MetroWest communities.

27 (e) Members shall serve on the MetroWest commission on the status of women as  
28 volunteers and shall not be compensated.

29 (f) The MetroWest commission on the status of women shall elect from among its  
30 members a chair, a vice chair, a treasurer and any other officers as it deems necessary.

31 (g) The MetroWest commission on the status of women shall meet at least 4 times a year,  
32 at the members' discretion. Members of the commission on the status of women may attend the  
33 meetings of the MetroWest commission on the status of women.

34 (h) The MetroWest commission on the status of women may accept and solicit funds,  
35 including any gifts, donations, grants or bequests and federal funds for any of the purposes of  
36 this act. The funds shall be deposited in a separate account to be expended at the discretion of the  
37 commission.

38 (i) The MetroWest commission on the status of women may: (i) use voluntary and  
39 uncompensated services of private individuals, agencies and organizations as may, from time to  
40 time, be offered or required; (ii) recommend policies and make recommendations to state and  
41 local agencies and officers to effectuate the purposes of the commission; (3) enact by-laws for its  
42 own governance; (iv) hold regular public meetings, conduct fact-finding hearings and hold other  
43 public forums as it may deem necessary; and (v) take other actions as it deems necessary to  
44 effectuate its purposes."; and by striking out the title and inserting in place thereof the following  
45 title: "An Act establishing the MetroWest commission on the status of women".