

HOUSE No. 4436

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, April 23, 2018.

The committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 629) of Daniel Cahill and others relative to the public safety on certain college and university campuses in the Commonwealth, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 4436) ought to pass.

For the committee,

HAROLD P. NAUGHTON, JR.

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In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)

An Act relative to the public safety on urban college campuses.

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. Definitions:

2 “College or university”, under this Act shall mean any campus or other property of an
3 educational institution of higher learning within the commonwealth of Massachusetts, excluding
4 any college or university under the control of the Trustees of the University of Massachusetts,
5 that is located within the City of Boston and/or any other community located within the City of
6 Boston side of the geographic area bordered by Route 495, and has an aggregate student
7 population matriculating in undergraduate and graduate programs of at least ten thousand.

8 “Police Officer”, under this Act shall mean any person employed on a full-time basis by a
9 covered college or university as a police officer, who has been assigned to and has satisfactorily
10 completed a prescribed course of study approved by the municipal police training committee or
11 its equivalent, or the department of state police, and who is authorized to carry high capacity
12 weapons.

13 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, police
14 officers appointed by any college or university covered by this section, in connection with the
15 operation of any part of the college or university within the limits of the campuses, its other
16 properties or the environs thereof, may perform police duties under the direction of the
17 commanding officer or the person in charge of such campus or other property. While performing
18 such duties within those limits, including but not limited to the authority to use weapons
19 authorized under M.G. L. Chapter 140, Section 131J, the police officers shall have the same
20 authorities immunities and privileges as duly appointed and qualified police officers acting
21 elsewhere in the commonwealth.