

HOUSE No. 2107

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James M. Murphy

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a public safety facility improvement fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/16/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 2107

By Mr. Murphy of Weymouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2107) of James M. Murphy for an investigation by a special commission relative to the creation of a public safety facility improvement fund to assist municipalities and public safety entities. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act establishing a public safety facility improvement fund.

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: There shall be a commission to study the creation of a public safety facility
2 improvement fund. The commission shall consist of 1 person to be appointed by the Speaker of
3 the House of Representatives; 1 person to be appointed by the President of the Senate, both of
4 whom shall serve as co-chairs; 1 person to be appointed by the minority leader of the House of
5 Representatives; 1 person to be appointed by the minority leader of the Senate; the Treasurer and
6 Receiver General of the Commonwealth or their designee; the Executive Secretary of Public
7 Safety and Security of the Commonwealth or their designee; 1 person to be appointed by the
8 Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts; 1 person to be appointed by the Fire Chiefs
9 Association of Massachusetts; 1 person to be appointed by the Massachusetts Municipal
10 Association; 1 person to be appointed by the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police

11 SECTION 2: The commission shall study and make recommendations on the
12 establishment of a dedicated revenue stream and entity to assist municipalities and public safety

13 entities with the cost of renovation and improvement of existing public safety facilities and the
14 construction of new public safety facilities. The commission shall examine and make
15 recommendations on the organizational structuring of this authority, which shall include
16 considerations of public safety chief officers, personnel of full-time, call and volunteer public
17 safety departments, public safety personnel with specialized training in occupational safety and
18 hazards, personnel and firms with no less than (5) years of experience in municipal public safety
19 facility construction, and government finance officials.

20 The commission shall also examine existing funding for public safety facilities and make
21 recommendations on the establishment of a dedicated funding mechanism to provide said
22 authority for public safety facility improvement with a dedicated funding mechanism for the
23 purposes of assisting public safety agencies with the design, improvement and construction of
24 public safety facilities. This shall include but not be limited to the establishment of a public
25 safety impact assessment on new development. This study shall examine the valuation of this
26 rate based upon square footage, expected occupancy rates, increased rates for facilities
27 presenting hazards which would require enhanced public safety resources in a community, and
28 any other special circumstances identified by the commission.

29 The commission shall recommend criteria to be established by the authority when
30 determining disbursement of funds. This shall include but not be limited to a clear priority
31 structure for projects under consideration, including measures to prioritize critical health and
32 safety improvements, development of standards and measures to be used by departments for
33 projects that receive funding from the authority, and any other relevant critical public safety
34 components to be included in projects funded by the agency.

35 The commission shall hold its first meeting not later than 30 days after the effective date
36 of this act and shall not meet less frequently than monthly thereafter. The commission shall
37 submit a report of its study and recommendations together with drafts of legislation necessary to
38 carry those recommendations into effect by filing the same with the clerks of the house and
39 senate not later than one year after the effective date of this act.