

**SENATE . . . . . No. 2249**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Joan B. Lovely***

*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 relative to the creation of a women's rights history trail.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Jessica Ann Giannino</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>3/3/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>3/3/2021</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/5/2021</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/9/2021</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>3/16/2021</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/26/2021</i>

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By Ms. Lovely, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2249) of Joan B. Lovely, Kay Khan, Jessica Ann Giannino, Hannah Kane and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to the creation of a women's rights history trail. Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to the creation of a women's rights history trail.

*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. Chapter 6C of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
2 following section:-

3 Section 77. (a) As used in this section, the following words shall have the following  
4 meanings:

5 "Executive director", the executive director of the office of travel and tourism.

6 "Secretary", the secretary of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation.

7 (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the secretary, in  
8 conjunction with the executive director, shall develop and implement a Women's Rights History  
9 Trail program, which shall include designating properties and sites that are historically and  
10 thematically associated with the struggle for women's rights and women's suffrage. Said

11 program shall promote education and awareness of the struggle for women’s rights in the  
12 commonwealth.

13 (c) The secretary and executive director shall produce and disseminate appropriate  
14 educational materials regarding the trail program, which may include handbooks, maps, exhibits,  
15 uniform signs, interpretive guides and electronic information.

16 (d) The executive director shall develop vacation itineraries based on the Women’s  
17 Rights History Trail program, which shall identify surrounding attractions, restaurants, farms,  
18 lodging and other exhibits or places of entertainment as may be a part of the historical theme  
19 linking the properties and sites in the Women’s Rights History Trail program.

20 (e) The secretary may erect and maintain signs on the state highway system or trails  
21 designated pursuant to this section; provided that any trail designation shall be of a ceremonial  
22 nature and the official names of such highways shall not be changed as a result of such  
23 designations.

24 (f) In developing and implementing the Women’s Rights History Trail program, the  
25 secretary shall consider the recommendations of the Women’s Rights History Trail Task Force  
26 of 2021-2022.

27 SECTION 2. There shall be established, pursuant to section 2A of chapter 4 of the  
28 General Laws, the Women’s Rights History Trail Task Force of 2021-2022 to research, solicit  
29 public input and make recommendations for sites, properties and attractions to be included in the  
30 Women’s Rights History Trail program established pursuant to section 1. The task force shall  
31 consider, in making such recommendations, sites that (i) are historically and thematically  
32 associated with the struggle for women’s rights and women’s suffrage; (ii) are geographically

33 diverse; and (iii) commemorate individuals who reflect racial, ethnic, cultural and economic  
34 diversity.

35           The task force shall consist of the following 13 members: the house and senate chairs of  
36 the joint committee on tourism, arts, and cultural development, who shall serve as co-chairs of  
37 the task force; 1 person to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; 1 person  
38 to be appointed by the president of the senate; the minority leader of the house of representatives,  
39 or their designee; the minority leader of the senate, or their designee; the house and senate chairs  
40 of the Massachusetts Caucus of Women Legislators, or their designees; the secretary of the  
41 Massachusetts Department of Transportation, or their designee; the executive director of the  
42 Massachusetts office of travel and tourism, or their designee; the executive director of the  
43 commission on the status of women, established pursuant to section 66 of chapter 3 of the  
44 General Laws; 1 person to be appointed by the commission on the status of women, established  
45 pursuant to said section 66 of said chapter 3; and a representative of the Massachusetts Historical  
46 Society.

47           The task force shall submit its findings and recommendations with the clerks of the house  
48 of representatives and senate not later than July 31, 2022.