

HOUSE No. 3709

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Shirley B. Arriaga

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 to reform veterans' services at the municipal level.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Shirley B. Arriaga</i>	<i>8th Hampden</i>	<i>1/19/2023</i>
<i>Steven George Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>6/22/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 3709

By Representative Arriaga of Chicopee, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3709) of Shirley B. Arriaga for legislation to provide for the appointment of full-time veterans' agents or directors of veterans' services in certain cities and towns. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act to reform veterans' services at the municipal level.

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 10 of chapter 115 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 Any city or town having a population over 12,000 and having a part-time veterans' agent
4 or part-time director of veterans' services shall, at the start of the fiscal year, appoint a full time
5 veteran's agent or director of veterans' services. If any city or town, having a population over
6 12,000, fails to appoint a full time veteran's agent or director of veterans' services, the secretary
7 shall issue a civil penalty, not to exceed \$5,000, for each month of noncompliance. Each month
8 of noncompliance by the city or town shall be deemed a separate offense and such penalty shall
9 be in addition to any other penalties provided by law.