

HOUSE No. 565

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Lindsay N. Sabadosa

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 location of school resource officers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/9/2023</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>4/10/2023</i>
<i>John J. Mahoney</i>	<i>13th Worcester</i>	<i>5/16/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 565

By Representative Sabadosa of Northampton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 565) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa relative to the location of school resource officers. Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the location of school resource officers.

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. Section 37P of chapter 71, as appearing in section 79 of Chapter 253 of the
2 Acts of 2020, is hereby amended by inserting after the last sentence in the definition of “School
3 resource officer” the following sentence:-

4 A school resource officer shall not be located on school grounds but at the local police
5 station and shall be charged with serving as the primary emergency responder to calls to the
6 police department from public schools.

7 SECTION 2. Section 37P of chapter 71, as appearing in section 79 of Chapter 253 of the
8 Acts of 2020, is hereby further amended by striking the fifth paragraph of subsection (b) and
9 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:-

10 The model memorandum of understanding shall expressly state that school resource
11 officers, as well as any special service officers appointed to the school district, shall not: (i) be
12 located on school grounds, but at the local police station, or, in the case of a special service

13 officer, at the school district office, except when responding to school-based emergency (ii)
14 serve as school disciplinarians, enforcers of school regulations or in place of licensed school
15 psychologists, psychiatrists or counselors; and (iii) use police powers to address traditional
16 school discipline issues, including non-violent disruptive behavior.