

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3447**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***William M. Straus***

*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 commission to examine a reorganization of the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>William M. Straus</i>	<i>10th Bristol</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>

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By Representative Straus of Mattapoisett, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3447) of William M. Straus for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to examine a reorganization of the Registry of Motor Vehicles. Transportation.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3612 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act establishing a commission to examine a reorganization of the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to investigate a reorganization of the Registry of Motor Vehicles, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public safety.

*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 is hereby established a commission to examine and report on the  
2 feasibility and advisability of restructuring the Registry of Motor Vehicles to assign services and  
3 functions, including without limitation those related to licensing, directly related to the safe  
4 operation of motor vehicles to a new public safety division within the Massachusetts Department  
5 of Transportation (“department”) that shall be overseen by an administrator independent from the  
6 registrar and appointed and subject to removal by the secretary of transportation.

7           The commission shall be chaired by the secretary of transportation and shall be  
8 comprised of the following members: the attorney general or their designee; the secretary of  
9 public safety or their designee; the commissioner of insurance or their designee; the registrar of  
10 motor vehicles; the chair of the House Committee on Ways and Means; the chair of the Senate  
11 Committee on Ways and Means; the house and senate chairs of the Joint Committee on  
12 Transportation; a designee of the minority leader of the House of Representatives; a designee of  
13 the minority leader of the Senate; and a designee of the collective bargaining agent that  
14 represents the greatest number of employees of the Registry of Motor Vehicles.

15           The commission shall consult with representatives from the American Association of  
16 Motor Vehicle Administrators, United States Department of Transportation, United States  
17 Department of Homeland Security, executive office of the trial court, executive office of  
18 technology services and security, Massachusetts Association of Insurance Agents, Professional  
19 Driver Education Association of Massachusetts, School Transportation Association of  
20 Massachusetts, advocates for disabled persons and such other persons as needed to inform itself  
21 on relevant matters.

22           The commission shall hold not fewer than 3 public meetings at which members of the  
23 public shall be permitted to testify and submit written comments. Notice of such meetings shall  
24 be published on the web page and social media accounts of the department and Registry of  
25 Motor Vehicles at least 7 days prior to the meeting.

26           The commission shall issue a report that (i) separately identifies all services and functions  
27 performed by the Registry of Motor Vehicles and boards, divisions, and departments thereunder  
28 that directly relate to the safe licensed operation of motor vehicles, and (ii) assesses the

29 feasibility and advisability of transferring such services and functions to a new division focused  
30 on public safety. Such assessment shall consider the following issues, without limitation: the  
31 ability to efficiently and adequately meet all requirements of applicable state and federal laws  
32 and regulations; the need to amend applicable state laws and regulations; capital requirements;  
33 the effect on operating costs, including without limitation the effect on headcounts; applicable  
34 provisions of collective bargaining agreements; and logistical issues related to shared access of  
35 information and technology systems and the sharing of information with state and federal  
36 authorities and third parties.

37           The department shall provide staff to assist the commission in completing its obligations  
38 hereunder.

39           The report, together with drafts of legislation necessary to implement recommendations  
40 of the commission, if any, shall be filed with the clerks of the House of Representatives and  
41 Senate not later than January 1, 2025.