

HOUSE No. 2587

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marjorie C. Decker

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 on municipal emergency medical service staffing levels and workforce development.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>
<i>Estela A. Reyes</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>	<i>5/28/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 2587

By Representative Decker of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2587) of Marjorie C. Decker for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to municipal emergency medical service staffing levels and workforce development.. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act establishing a commission on municipal emergency medical service staffing levels and workforce development.

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. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall
2 be a commission to study municipal emergency medical service staffing levels and workforce
3 development.

4 (b) The commission shall consist of 15 members: the chairs of the joint committee on
5 public safety and homeland security or their designees, who shall serve as co-chairs; the chairs of
6 the joint committee on public service or their designees; the state fire marshal or a designee; the
7 director of the office of emergency medical services or a designee; 2 members appointed by the
8 Professional Fire Fighters of Massachusetts; 2 members appointed by the Fire Chiefs Association
9 of Massachusetts; 2 members appointed by the Massachusetts Health and Hospital Association,
10 Inc; 1 member representing the Massachusetts Health Care Workforce Center; 1 member

11 representing the State Office of Rural Health; and 1 member appointed by the Massachusetts
12 Municipal Association.

13 (c) The commission shall: (i) evaluate the current effectiveness and efficiency of
14 municipal-based emergency medical service staffing, including an assessment of call volume,
15 response times, ambulance transport times, turnaround times for ambulances at hospitals, and
16 wait times for ambulances at hospitals; (ii) explore the current challenges facing the emergency
17 medical service workforce, including operational inefficiencies, staffing shortages, training
18 needs, and retention; (iii) review current emergency medical service and fire service workforce
19 development programs; and (iv) recommend changes to streamline the workforce, enhance
20 service delivery, and set standard staffing levels for services, as well as identify best practices in
21 workforce development to promote new member engagement, retention, and training.

22 (d) The commission shall submit a report of its study and recommendations, together
23 with any proposed legislation, to the chairs of the joint committee on public safety and homeland
24 security and the clerks of the house of representatives and senate no later than March 1, 2026.