

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4214**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Carole A. Fiola and Michael J. Rodrigues***

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*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 appointment of the police chief in the city of Fall River.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>	<i>5/29/2025</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4214**

By Representative Fiola of Fall River and Senator Rodrigues, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4214) of Carole A. Fiola (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the appointment of the police chief in the city of Fall River. Public Service. [Local Approval Received.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to the appointment of the police chief in the city of Fall River.

*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. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the  
2 contrary, the position of Police Chief in the City of Fall River shall, upon the effective date of  
3 this Act, be subject to the provisions of Chapter 31 of the Massachusetts General Laws and all  
4 rules and regulations promulgated thereunder governing civil service.

5 SECTION 2. The Mayor of the City of Fall River shall remain the appointing authority  
6 for the Police Chief and the terms and conditions of the Police Chief's employment contract shall  
7 be subject to Section 1080 of General Laws Chapter 41, for a period not to exceed three (3)  
8 years.

9 SECTION 3. The Police Chief shall be the head of the Fall River Police Department,  
10 shall be responsible for the management and operation of said police department, and shall be the  
11 "Appointing Authority" for all employees of the police department in accordance with Section of

12 General Laws Chapter 31, with all the rights, duties and privileges appurtenant thereto and as  
13 contained in subsequent sections of Chapter 31 and any other general or special law applicable to  
14 chiefs of departments.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall apply to any vacancy in the position of Police Chief  
16 occurring on or after the effective date of this Act. Nothing in this Act shall affect the civil  
17 service status, seniority, or rights of any person employed in the Fall River Police Department as  
18 of the effective date of this Act.

19 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect upon its passage.