

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

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Russell E. Holmes*

*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 return DOC and Parole to Health and Human Services.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>

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

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3949 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to return DOC and Parole to Health and Human Services.

*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 16 of chapter 6A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place  
3 thereof the following paragraph:-

4 The executive office of health and human services shall include: (1) the department of  
5 elder affairs under the direction of a secretary of elder affairs, who shall be appointed by the  
6 governor; (2) the office of health services, which shall include the department of public health,  
7 the department of mental health, the division of medical assistance and the Betsy Lehman center  
8 for patient safety and medical error reduction; (3) the office of children, youth and family  
9 services, which shall include the department of children and families, the department of  
10 transitional assistance, the department of youth services, the child abuse prevention board and  
11 the office for refugees and immigrants; (4) the department of correction, including the parole

12 board; (5) the office of disabilities and community services, which shall include the department  
13 of developmental services, the Massachusetts rehabilitation commission, the Massachusetts  
14 commission for the blind and the Massachusetts commission for the deaf and hard of hearing; (6)  
15 the managed care oversight board; (7) the health facilities appeals board; and () the office of  
16 health equity.

17 SECTION 2. Said chapter 6A, as so appearing is hereby further amended by striking out  
18 section 18 and inserting in place thereof the following section:-

19 Section 18. The following state agencies are hereby declared to be within the executive  
20 office of public safety and security: the department of fire services; the office of grants and  
21 research and the highway safety division; the municipal police training committee; the  
22 Massachusetts department of criminal justice information services; the state 911 department; the  
23 department of state police; the office of the chief medical examiner; the Massachusetts  
24 emergency management agency; the military department; the sex offender registry board; and all  
25 other agencies and boards within said departments, committees and boards.

26 SECTION 3. Section 1 of chapter 27 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
27 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in line 10, the words "public safety" and  
28 inserting in place thereof the following words:- health and human services.

29 SECTION 4. Section 2 of said chapter 27, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking  
30 out, in line 2, the words "public safety" and inserting in place thereof the following words:-  
31 health and human services.

32 SECTION 5. Section 4 of said chapter 27, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking  
33 out, in line 20, the words "public safety" and inserting in place thereof the following words:-  
34 health and human services.

35 SECTION 6. Section 7 of said chapter 27, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking  
36 out, in line 4, the words "public safety" and inserting in place thereof the words:- health and  
37 human services.