

SENATE No. 1746

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael O. Moore

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 allow temporary door-locking devices in public buildings.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	
<i>Steven George Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>1/28/2025</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>	<i>3/17/2025</i>

SENATE No. 1746

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1746) of Michael O. Moore and Steven George Xiarhos for legislation to allow temporary door-locking devices in public buildings. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 2514 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to allow temporary door-locking devices in public buildings.

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. Chapter 143 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting at the end thereof the following new section:-

3 Section 101. Temporary Door Locking Devices

4 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary the executive office of public
5 safety and security shall promulgate regulations to allow the use of temporary door locking
6 devices for use in public buildings during emergency lockdown situations which require
7 sheltering in place protocols, and in consultation with the executive office of education and the
8 Massachusetts school building authority, shall establish regulations regarding the use of
9 temporary locking devices in school buildings. These regulations shall include, but not be limited

10 to (1) circumstances under which temporary door locking devices may be used; (2) appropriate
11 locations for temporary door locking devices and ensuring consistent operation throughout a
12 building; (3) a local approval process, including consultation with the fire department and law
13 enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the building; (4) integration of such devices into
14 building safety plans and training programs; (5) in-service training on the use of the device by
15 first responders and public employees; and (6) standards for annual inspections to ensure proper
16 use and operation. Temporary door locking devices, as defined in this section, shall not be
17 proscribed by any ordinance that prohibits a building from installing a barricade device.

18 For the purposes of this section, temporary door locking device shall mean, a device that
19 prevents unwanted entry through a door, provided that the device (1) can be engaged without
20 opening the door; (2) can be engaged and removed from the egress side of the door without the
21 use of a key or tool; (3) can be removed from the ingress side of the door by appropriate
22 personnel with the use of a key or other credential; (4) does not modify the door closer, panic
23 hardware, or fire exit hardware; (5) is not permanently mounted to the door, although individual
24 parts of the device assembly, including bolts, stops, brackets, and pins that do not prevent normal
25 function of the door may be permanently mounted; (6) does not affect the fire rating of the door
26 and complies with National Fire Protection Association fire rating standards; (7) can be removed
27 with a single operation once engaged, unless the building is equipped throughout with an
28 automatic sprinkler system, in which case two operations may be permitted; (8) is positioned at a
29 height not to exceed 48" above the floor; and (9) is only engaged for a finite period of time.