

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Paul R. Feeney***

*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 requiring licensure for use of graduated electronic decelerators.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Paul R. Feeney*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Bristol and Norfolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 81 OF 2023-2024.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act requiring licensure for use of graduated electronic decelerators.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 244. (a) As used in this section, the term “graduated electronic decelerator” shall  
3 mean a device that applies a noxious electrical stimulus or electric shock to the skin of a person  
4 with a disability to alter behavior.

5 (b) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations for the training, certification  
6 and licensing of individuals to administer or cause to be administered a procedure using a  
7 graduated electronic decelerator. The regulations shall require a comprehensive training program  
8 that includes, but is not limited to: (i) appropriate and necessary use; (ii) prohibited uses; (iii)  
9 alternatives to use, including de-escalation strategies, positive reinforcement, non-aversive  
10 measures and less intrusive procedures; (iv) safe administration, including ways to minimize  
11 pain and injury; (v) health and safety risks of use and misuse; (vi) signs of abuse; (vii) evidence

12 of trauma; (viii) requirements for approval and supervision of use; (ix) penalties for unauthorized  
13 use or misuse; (x) policies and procedures for reporting of unauthorized use or misuse; and (xi)  
14 an examination approved by the department testing the applicant's professional skills, judgment  
15 and fitness to administer or cause to be used a graduated electronic decelerator.

16 (c) No person shall administer, cause to be administered or supervise a person who  
17 administers a procedure using a graduated electronic decelerator without a license. No person  
18 with a license shall misuse, cause a graduated electronic decelerator to be misused or supervise a  
19 person who misuses a graduated electronic decelerator.

20 (d) No entity operating within the commonwealth shall permit an individual without a  
21 license granted pursuant to this section to administer or cause to be administered a procedure  
22 using a graduated electronic decelerator. No entity operating within the commonwealth shall  
23 permit an individual with a license granted pursuant to this section to misuse or cause a  
24 graduated electronic decelerator to be misused.

25 (e) A violation of this section shall be punishable of a fine not to exceed \$500.