

# Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

---

## *Bill Summary*

**Bill Number:** H2666

**Name:** An Act relative to preserving the ancient privileges of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts.

**Sponsor(s):** Representative Paul McMurtry & David F. DeCoste

**Hearing Date:** 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2025 at 1PM in A2

**Prior History:** First Time File

### **Summary:**

Section 1: This bill proposes to amend Chapter 33 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition by replacing Section 4: The change to Section 4: adds the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts to the list of units that make up the active or organized militia of the Commonwealth. This inclusion formally recognizes the Company as part of the military division of the executive branch, alongside existing entities like the National Lancers and the 54th Massachusetts Volunteer Regiment. The rest of the paragraph remains unchanged, meaning the overall structure and definition of the organized militia are preserved, but with expanded composition.

Section 2: This bill proposes to amend Chapter 33 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition by adding Section 4C: affirms that the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts shall retain its historic privileges as an organized military company under the National Defense Act, while remaining subject to state militia laws. The company may keep its name, distinctive uniforms, and internal governance structure, including officer selection and bylaws, if they comply with state and federal law. It will also serve as a ceremonial honor guard for the commander-in-chief at state functions or as otherwise directed.

Section 3: This bill proposes to amend Chapter 33 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition by striking section 132 which affirms that nothing in this chapter shall interfere with the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Massachusetts's right to maintain its military organization, constitution, and by-laws, if they do not conflict with state or federal law.