

# Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

## Bill Summary

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<b><u>BILL NUMBER</u></b>	House, No. 4697
<b><u>TITLE</u></b>	An Act relative to the training, certification, and recognition of constables and civil deputy sheriffs
<b><u>SPONSORS</u></b>	Representatives Turco of Winthrop, Arena-DeRosa of Holliston, and Vaughn of Wrentham; Senator O'Connor
<b><u>HEARING DATE</u></b>	Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at 09:00 AM - 12:00 PM, A-2

### **PRIOR HISTORY**

First Time File

### **SUMMARY**

This bill would bring constables and civil deputy sheriffs under a formal statewide framework for training, certification, and oversight by expanding the Massachusetts Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) system to include these officials as “other law enforcement officers,” provided they complete commission-approved training. It requires the POST Commission to create flexible training formats (including part-time/weekend/evening options) and mandates at least 40 hours of annual in-service training, while also establishing a dedicated internal division to oversee their certification and standards. The bill funds these programs by creating a Civil Deputy Sheriffs and Constables Training Fund, supported by a \$2 surcharge on civil court filings, and directs the POST Commission and Municipal Police Training Committee to jointly develop role-specific curricula with input from constable associations, while exempting individuals who served 10 consecutive years prior to December 31, 2020 from the new certification requirements.