



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
JOINT COMMITTEE ON STATE ADMINISTRATION AND
REGULATORY OVERSIGHT
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Rep. Antonio F. D. Cabral
House Chair

Sen. Nick Collins
Senate Chair

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

Date of Hearing: Tuesday, September 9, 2025

Time: 10:00 AM-1:00 PM

Location: A-1 and Virtual

Matters concerning state regulations, land bills, and honorary designations

All matters filed in the House that are listed above are required to be reported on by November 9, 2025, subject to extensions consistent with House Rule 27.

Please be advised that the schedule and agenda are subject to change at the discretion of the chairs. Further, the Chairs may schedule an executive session to coincide with this hearing. Per Committee Rules, Joint Committee members will be given any advance notice and materials to review.

IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL TESTIMONY REGISTRATION: Legislators, public officials, and the public *must* register to provide oral testimony. To register to testify **virtually** or **in-person**, please provide the contact information requested in this [form](#) by **4:00 PM on Friday, September 5**. Once registered, you will receive further instruction on how to participate virtually.

WRITTEN TESTIMONY: Written testimony can be submitted via email to Nicole Janeiro at nicole.janeiro@mahouse.gov or Riley Nichols at riley.nichols@masenate.gov. Alternatively, testimony can be physically mailed to either the House or Senate Chair:

Chair Antonio F.D. Cabral
Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
ATTN: Svetlana Yefimenko
24 Beacon St, Suite 466
Boston, MA 02133

Chair Nick Collins
Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight
ATTN: Riley Nichols
24 Beacon St, Room 511-A
Boston, MA 02133

Written testimony is encouraged and will continue to be accepted after the hearing until the relevant bill is acted upon.

Please be advised that all oral and written testimony may be publicly available.

A livestream of this hearing will be available on the General Court website, <https://malegislature.gov/>

You may contact committee staff with any questions by emailing at nicole.janeiro@mahouse.gov or riley.nichols@masenate.gov

Bill No.	Sponsor	Title
H3289	Ayers, Bruce J. (HOU)	An Act relative to the enhanced disposition of surplus motor vehicles owned by the commonwealth or authorities established by the state
H3307	Connolly, Mike (HOU)	An Act banning hostile architecture targeting unhoused individuals
H3311	Davis, Leigh (HOU)	An Act advancing equity for rural communities receiving state grants
H3317	Domb, Mindy (HOU)	An Act providing for gender-neutral bathrooms
H3321	Donahue, Daniel M. (HOU)	An Act modernizing microphotographic recording of documents
H3329	Farley-Bouvier, Tricia (HOU)	An Act relative to reimbursing traveling expenses of governor's council members
H3355	Howitt, Steven S. (HOU)	An Act relative to prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations
H3356	Howitt, Steven S. (HOU)	An Act relative to transparency for grant applications
H3362	Jones, Jr., Bradley H. (HOU)	An Act relative to requiring premium impact statements
H3378	LeBoeuf, David Henry Argosky (HOU)	An Act to simplify the language used by state agencies
H3892	Farley-Bouvier, Tricia (HOU)	An Act establishing offices of legislative research and fiscal analysis
H4368	MacGregor, William F. (HOU)	An Act authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to release a certain sewer line easement in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston
H4415	Moran, Michael J. (HOU)	An Act relative to certain affordable housing and cultural space in the Brighton section of the city of Boston
S2099	Eldridge, James B. (SEN)	An Act to provide sunlight to state government
S2112	Collins, Nick (SEN)	An Act relative to increased safety standards in the construction industry
S2116	Comerford, Joanne M. (SEN)	An Act providing for gender-neutral bathrooms
S2117	Comerford, Joanne M. (SEN)	An Act providing that no state funds will be allocated to any agency, school, university, etc. that does research on animals
S2118	Comerford, Joanne M. (SEN)	An Act increasing government accessibility for persons who are blind or visually impaired
S2119	Comerford, Joanne M. (SEN)	An Act providing for transparency and geographic equity in all state grant funding
S2162	Lewis, Jason M. (SEN)	An Act providing for the creation of a Massachusetts

Bill No.	Sponsor	Title
		COVID-19 Memorial
S2170	Mark, Paul W. (SEN)	An Act updating the flag of the Commonwealth

Please be advised that the schedule and agenda are subject to change at the discretion of the chair per committee rules.

You may contact committee staff with any questions at (617) 722-2017 or (617) 722-1150.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3289
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to the enhanced disposition of surplus motor vehicles owned by the commonwealth or authorities established by the state
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representative Ayers of Quincy
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24) H2983: Accompanied study order, H4675

(2021-22) H3103: Accompanied study order, H4969

CURRENT LAW

Section 36A of Chapter 30, regarding purchase, replacement, or repair of motor vehicles owned by the commonwealth

SUMMARY

Amends section 36A of chapter 30 by inserting a new paragraph.

Any state motor vehicle, including construction and snow removal, that has been determined surplus shall be offered at sale or auction to the cities and towns of the Commonwealth. The Executive Office of Administration and Finance shall establish guidelines for such sales. Any vehicle not sold in this manner may then be made available to the general public for sale and/or auction.

HOUSE No. 3289

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce J. Ayers

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 relative to the enhanced disposition of surplus motor vehicles owned by the commonwealth or authorities established by the state.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3289

By Representative Ayers of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3289) of Bruce J. Ayers relative to the sale or auction of surplus state motor vehicles to cities and towns. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2983 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to the enhanced disposition of surplus motor vehicles owned by the commonwealth or authorities established by the state.

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 36A of Chapter 30 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting at the end
2 of the first paragraph the following new paragraph:—

3 Any state motor vehicle or a motor vehicle owned by a state authority, including
4 construction and snow removal equipment, that has been determined to be surplus property and
5 no longer useable by the Commonwealth shall be offered at sale or auction to the cities and
6 towns of the Commonwealth. The Executive Office of Administration and Finance shall
7 promulgate rules and regulations that establish guidelines for such sales and auctions including
8 but not limited to notice payment, delivery and liability. Any motor vehicle that is not sold or
9 auctioned off in this manner may then be made available to the general public for sale and/or

10 auction. For the purpose of this section, motor vehicle shall be defined as any vehicle constructed
11 and designed for propulsion by power other than muscular strength including any such vehicles
12 pulled or towed by another motor vehicle.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3307
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act banning hostile architecture targeting unhoused individuals
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representative Connolly of Cambridge
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24) H3005: Favorable, referred to House Steering

(2021-22) H3963: Favorable, referred to House Ways and Means

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 40, establishing the powers and duties of cities and towns

Chapter 7C, establishes the role of the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance regarding property owned by the Commonwealth

Chapter 161A, outlining the structure and duties of the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Chapter 265, addressing offenses against individuals

SUMMARY

SECTION 1: Inserts a new section into chapter 40.

“Hostile architecture” means any building or structure designed to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure. It also prevents those from skateboarding or rollerblading or preventing vehicles from entering certain areas.

A municipality shall not install or construct hostile architecture on any publicly accessible real property.

SECTION 2: Inserts a new section into chapter 7C.

“Hostile architecture” means any building or structure designed to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure. It also prevents those from skateboarding or rollerblading or preventing vehicles from entering certain areas.

The commissioner of the Department of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance shall not install or construct hostile architecture on any publicly accessible real property.

SECTION 3: Inserts a new section into chapter 161A.

“Hostile architecture” means any building or structure designed to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure. It also prevents those from skateboarding or rollerblading or preventing vehicles from entering certain areas.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority shall not install or construct hostile architecture on any publicly accessible real property.

SECTION 4: Inserts a new section into chapter 265.

“Hostile architecture” means any building or structure designed to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure. It also prevents those from skateboarding or rollerblading or preventing vehicles from entering certain areas.

If someone installs or constructs hostile architecture on any publicly accessible real property, they shall be punished by a fine of no more than \$500 per day for each violation.

HOUSE No. 3307

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mike Connolly

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 banning hostile architecture targeting unhoused individuals.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3307

By Representative Connolly of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3307) of Mike Connolly for legislation to prohibit the construction of publicly accessible buildings or structures designed or intended to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure at street level. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3005 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act banning hostile architecture targeting unhoused individuals.

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 40 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
2 section:-

3 Section 70. (a) For purposes of this section, the term “Hostile architecture” shall, unless
4 the context clearly requires otherwise, mean any building or structure that is designed or
5 intended to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure at
6 street level; provided, that hostile architecture shall not include design elements intended to
7 prevent individuals from skateboarding or rollerblading or to prevent vehicles from entering
8 certain areas.

9 (b) A municipality shall not install or construct hostile architecture in any publicly
10 accessible building or on publicly accessible real property owned by or under the control of the
11 municipality.

12 SECTION 2. Chapter 7C of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the
13 following section:-

14 Section 73. (a) For purposes of this section, the term “Hostile architecture” shall, unless
15 the context clearly requires otherwise, mean any building or structure that is designed or
16 intended to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure at
17 street level; provided, that hostile architecture shall not include design elements intended to
18 prevent individuals from skateboarding or rollerblading or to prevent vehicles from entering
19 certain areas.

20 (b) The commissioner shall not install or construct hostile architecture in any publicly
21 accessible capital facility or on publicly accessible real property under the commissioner’s
22 control or supervision.

23 SECTION 3. Chapter 161A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the
24 following section:-

25 Section 53. (a) For purposes of this section, the term “Hostile architecture” shall, unless
26 the context clearly requires otherwise, mean any building or structure that is designed or
27 intended to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure at
28 street level; provided, that hostile architecture shall not include design elements intended to
29 prevent individuals from skateboarding or rollerblading or to prevent vehicles from entering
30 certain areas.

31 (b) The authority shall not install or construct hostile architecture in any publicly
32 accessible mass transportation facilities under the authority's control or supervision.

33 SECTION 4. Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the
34 following section:-

35 Section 73. (a) For purposes of this section, the term "Hostile architecture" shall, unless
36 the context clearly requires otherwise, mean any building or structure that is designed or
37 intended to prevent unhoused individuals from sitting or lying on the building or structure at
38 street level; provided, that hostile architecture shall not include design elements intended to
39 prevent individuals from skateboarding or rollerblading or to prevent vehicles from entering
40 certain areas.

41 (b) Whoever installs or constructs hostile architecture on any publicly accessible real
42 property shall be punished by a fine of not more than \$500 for each day in violation of this
43 section.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3311
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act advancing equity for rural communities receiving state grants
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representatives Davis of Great Barrington, Blais of Deerfield, Sabadosa of Northampton, and Pease of Westfield; Senators Comerford and Eldridge
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24) H3102: Accompanied study order, H4675

(2021-22) H3108: Accompanied study order, H4969

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 7, establishing the Executive Office for Administration and Finance and outlining its structure and duties

SUMMARY

Inserts a new section in chapter 7.

Inserts a definition for “rural communities” which means municipalities with populations fewer than 500 persons per square mile or a population with fewer than 7,000 persons.

The secretary shall give preference to rural communities that plan to use funds to regionalize or share services that serve rural communities. The secretary shall also direct agencies to inform rural communities about discretionary grant programs that want to regionalize and share services. Every year the secretary shall submit a report on the implementation of this section.

HOUSE No. 3311

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Leigh Davis

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 advancing equity for rural communities receiving state grants.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Leigh Davis</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>1/13/2025</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/18/2025</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>2/19/2025</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>6/12/2025</i>
<i>Kelly W. Pease</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>	<i>3/17/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3311

By Representative Davis of Great Barrington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3311) of Leigh Davis and others relative to state grants for rural communities. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3102 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act advancing equity for rural communities receiving state grants.

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 7 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding after section 62 the
2 following section:-

3 Section 63. As used in this section the following words shall have the following
4 meanings:-

5 “Rural communities”, municipalities with population densities of less than 500 persons
6 per square mile or a population of less than 7,000 persons, in each case as shown in the most
7 recent U.S. decennial census.

8 The secretary shall direct all departments, commissions, offices, boards, divisions,
9 institutions or other agencies administering grant programs to give preference to rural

10 communities, particularly those that intend to use funds to regionalize or share services, and to
11 grant applicants that serve rural communities.

12 The secretary shall direct all such agencies to identify and inform rural communities of
13 discretionary grant programs and incentives for which rural communities wishing to regionalize
14 or share services could benefit from preferences under this section.

15 The secretary shall annually, on or before July 1, report on the implementation of this
16 section to the senate and house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on
17 municipalities and regional government and members of the general court who represent rural
18 communities.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3317
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act providing for gender-neutral bathrooms
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representatives Domb of Amherst, Montañó of Boston, Blais of Deerfield, Ramos of North Andover, Connolly of Cambridge, and Howard of Lowell; Senator Comerford
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	S2116 (Sen. Comerford—Identical)

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24) H3019: Favorable, referred to House Ways and Means

(2021-22) H3124: Favorable, referred to House Ways and Means

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 142, regarding the supervision of plumbing

SUMMARY

Directs the board of state examiners of plumbers and gas fitters to promulgate State Building Code regulations to allow for gender neutral bathrooms to be designed and installed in any use group defined by the 780 CMR Massachusetts state building code regardless of whether the work being performed is new construction, repair, renovation or alteration work.

HOUSE No. 3317

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mindy Domb and Samantha Montaño

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 providing for gender-neutral bathrooms.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Samantha Montaño</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>3/25/2025</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>3/25/2025</i>
<i>Adrienne Pusateri Ramos</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>3/25/2025</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/16/2025</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>8/16/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3317

By Representatives Domb of Amherst and Montañó of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3317) of Mindy Domb and Samantha Montañó relative to the promulgation of State Building Code regulations to allow for gender-neutral bathrooms. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing for gender-neutral bathrooms.

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 142 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 13 the
2 following section:-

3 Section 13A. The Uniform State Plumbing Code shall include regulations that allow
4 gender-neutral toilet and bathing facilities, including toilet and bathing facilities that contain
5 more than 1 toilet, urinal or shower separated by privacy walls or partitions, with separate or
6 grouped handwashing fixtures, to be designated or installed in any use group defined in the state
7 building code, regardless of whether the work being performed is new construction or repair,
8 renovation or alteration work.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3321
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act modernizing microphotographic recording of documents
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representative Donahue of Worcester
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24) H3022: Accompanied study order, H4675

CURRENT LAW

Section 15 of chapter 36, outlining the method of recording documents for registries of deeds

SUMMARY

Amends section 15 of chapter 36 such that each register shall duplicate copies of all books in their registry not by a microphotographic process, but a format approved by the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

HOUSE No. 3321

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Daniel M. Donahue

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 modernizing microphotographic recording of documents.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3321

By Representative Donahue of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3321) of Daniel M. Donahue relative to microphotographic recording of documents. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act modernizing microphotographic recording of documents.

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 XX: Section 15 of chapter 36, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is
2 hereby amended, by striking out, in line 6, the words "microphotographic process".

3 SECTION XX: Said section 15 of said chapter 36, as so appearing, is hereby further
4 amended by inserting, in line 8, after the word "entered", the words:- in a format approved by
5 the Secretary of the Commonwealth".

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3329
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to reimbursing traveling expenses of governor's council members
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representatives Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield, Blais of Deerfield, Domb of Amherst, Duffy of Holyoke, González of Springfield, Puppolo of Springfield, Sabadosa of Northampton, and Williams of Springfield; Senators Comerford and Oliveira
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

None

CURRENT LAW

Section 4 of chapter 6: Traveling expenses of lieutenant governor and council members

SUMMARY

Strikes lines 6 through 15 of section 4 of chapter 6 which prohibits lieutenant governors who serve two consecutive terms within the preceding 11 years and council members who serve four consecutive terms within the preceding 9 years from receiving payments for mileage, meals, and lodging expenses.

HOUSE No. 3329

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tricia Farley-Bouvier

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 relative to reimbursing traveling expenses of governor’s council members.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/17/2025</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2025</i>
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester</i>	<i>1/27/2025</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>1/22/2025</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/23/2025</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>1/24/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3329

By Representative Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3329) of Tricia Farley-Bouvier and others relative to the reimbursement of traveling expenses of governor’s council members. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to reimbursing traveling expenses of governor’s council members.

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 4 of chapter 6 of the general laws is hereby amended by striking out lines 6
- 2 through 15.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3355
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representative Howitt of Seekonk
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24): H3054: accompanied study order, H4675

(2021-22) H3170: accompanied study order, H4969

CURRENT LAW

Section 29F of chapter 29, regarding exclusions from public contracting

SUMMARY

Inserts a clause in section 29F(c)(1) that would make it a debarment to discriminate in public accommodations.

Inserts a clause in section 29F(c)(2) that would make it a debarment to:

- Adopt policies against nations or people to discriminate in public accommodations or employment
- Any causes that are so serious and compelling that affect a contractor's responsibilities as determined by the secretary or commissioner

HOUSE No. 3355

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven S. Howitt

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 relative to prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3355

By Representative Howitt of Seekonk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3355) of Steven S. Howitt relative to the reasons for debarment from the consolidated list of contractors for public contracts. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3054 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations.

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. Clause (1) of subsection (c) of Section 29F of Chapter 29 of the General
2 Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word
3 “or”, in line 82, the following:-

4 “(xi) a violation of any state or federal law prohibiting discrimination in public
5 accommodations; or”

6 SECTION 2. Clause (2) of subsection (c) of Section 29F of Chapter 29 of the General
7 Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition is hereby amended by striking subclause (v), in
8 lines 97 to 100, and inserting in place there of the following:-

9 “(v) adopted policies against any sovereign nation or peoples recognized by the
10 government of the United States which are used to discriminate in violation of any state or
11 federal law prohibiting discrimination in public accommodations or employment; (vi) any other
12 cause affecting the responsibility of a contractor which the secretary or the commissioner
13 determines to be of such serious and compelling nature as to warrant debarment”

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3356
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to transparency for grant applications
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representative Howitt of Seekonk
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24): H3053: accompanied study order, H4675

(2021-22) H3170: accompanied study order, H4969

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 10, outlining the duties and responsibilities of the state treasurer

SUMMARY

Section 1. Nonprofits that receive state grant funding must provide: a financial statement of any existing endowment, a list of foreign donors and the amount of money, goods, or services donated within the last 5 years, a statement disclosing contracts with the Commonwealth for goods and/or services rendered, a statement disclosing existing business contracts between the Commonwealth and board of directors.

Section 2. The treasurer shall promulgate rules and regulations to implement this act.

HOUSE No. 3356

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven S. Howitt

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 relative to transparency for grant applications.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3356

By Representative Howitt of Seekonk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3356) of Steven S. Howitt relative to information provided to relevant state agencies upon the submission of applications for state grant funding. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3053 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to transparency for grant applications.

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. Notwithstanding any general provisions or special laws to the contrary,
2 nonprofit organizations shall provide the following to relevant state agencies upon the
3 submission of an application for state grant funding:

4 (1) A financial statement containing a full accounting of any existing endowment
5 belonging to the nonprofit.

6 (2) A comprehensive listing of any and all foreign donors and the amount of money,
7 goods and/or services donated to that organization within the last 5 years.

8 (3) A statement disclosing contracts with the Commonwealth for goods and/or services
9 rendered.

10 (4) A statement disclosing existing business contracts between the Commonwealth and
11 members of the board of directors for said organization.

12 SECTION 2. The office of the treasurer shall promulgate rules, regulations, and relevant
13 documentation pursuant to the implementation of this Act.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3362
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to requiring premium impact statements
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representatives Jones of North Reading, Ferguson of Holden, Frost of Auburn, and Smola of Warren
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	S885 (Sen. Lovely—Identical)

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24) H3065: accompanied study order, H4675

(2021-22) H3105: accompanied study order, H4969

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 9, outlining the duties and responsibilities of the department of the state secretary

SUMMARY

This bill would require that, prior to any significant change to healthcare or health insurance regulation, an agency must file with the Secretary of State's office a public notice of the proposed change and a statement explaining the potential impact of this change on health insurance premiums. This requirement would also be implemented for any potential legislative change to healthcare or health insurance law.

HOUSE No. 3362

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 relative to requiring premium impact statements.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/14/2025</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2025</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>3/10/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3362

By Representative Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3362) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and others for legislation to require disclosure of changes to health care and insurance regulations by certain state agencies. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3065 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to requiring premium impact statements.

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. Prior to the adoption, amendment, or repeal of any health care or health
2 insurance-related regulation, an agency must file with the secretary of state’s office a public
3 notice of the proposed action and include a premium impact statement. In the statement, the
4 agency must consider the impact the proposed action will or will not have on health insurance
5 premium rates in Massachusetts. The agency must afford the public an opportunity to present
6 data, views, or arguments related to the impact statement, and prior to adopting the proposed
7 regulation, the agency must file an amended premium impact statement with the secretary of
8 state’s office.

9 SECTION 2. Any joint committee, house committee, or senate committee may report
10 favorably any bill or petition relative to health care or health insurance so long as that bill or

11 petition shall have first received a premium impact statement conducted by the center for health
12 information and analysis. Any joint committee, house committee or senate committee shall refer
13 all healthcare and health insurance related bills or petitions to an accompanied study order
14 pending a final report by the center for health information and analysis pursuant to this section."

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 3378
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act to simplify the language used by state agencies
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representatives LeBoeuf of Worcester, Gaskey of Carver, and Marsi of Charlton
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24) H3781: accompanied study order, H4675

CURRENT LAW

Section 4C of chapter 7D, regarding the appointment of a chief digital officer

SUMMARY

The chief digital officer shall have plain and simple language for web services used by the public.

HOUSE No. 3378

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf

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 simplify the language used by state agencies.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/6/2025</i>
<i>John R. Gaskey</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>2/13/2025</i>
<i>John J. Marsi</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>	<i>3/19/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 3378

By Representative LeBoeuf of Worcester, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3378) of David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf and John R. Gaskey for legislation to simplify the language used on the state website by executive offices and agencies. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3781 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to simplify the language used by state agencies.

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 4C of chapter 7D of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by striking out the second sentence and inserting in place thereof the
3 following 4 sentences:- The chief digital officer shall improve the web services for executive
4 offices and agencies. The chief digital officer will require plain and simple language consistent
5 with the average reading comprehension level of residents of the commonwealth as determined
6 by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education for web services. The web services
7 will include information on common issues faced by the public. The chief digital officer will
8 provide analog alternatives for the web services information written in plain and simple language
9 consistent with the average reading comprehension level of residents of the commonwealth as
10 determined by the commissioner of elementary and secondary education.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

BILL NUMBER House, No. 3892

TITLE An Act establishing offices of legislative research and fiscal analysis

SPONSORS

HEARING DATE Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1

SIMILAR MATTERS None

PRIOR HISTORY

None

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 3, outlining the organization and procedures of the Massachusetts state legislature

SUMMARY

Inserts a new section into chapter 3 establishing an office of legislative research and an office of fiscal analysis in the General Court. The offices will make their findings public.

HOUSE No. 3892

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tricia Farley-Bouvier, (BY REQUEST)

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 establishing offices of legislative research and fiscal analysis.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Jeanne M. Kempthorne</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Virginia O'Leary</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Louise Farkas</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Frank Farkas</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Peter Enrich</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Mary Z. Connaughton</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Jay Kaufman</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Scotia Hille</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Jennifer Nassour</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Jeanne Krieger</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Mary Ann Stewart</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>John Lippitt</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Cathleen Cavell</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Douglas Cannon</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Julie Breskin</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Jeff Gross</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>
<i>Elizabeth Bradt</i>		<i>1/15/2025</i>

Alix Smullin
Lisa A. Baci

1/15/2025
1/15/2025

HOUSE No. 3892

By Representative Farley-Bouvier of Pittsfield (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3892) of Jeanne M. Kempthorne and others for legislation to establish the offices of legislative research and fiscal analysis. Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing offices of legislative research and fiscal analysis.

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. It is hereby declared that the volume and complexity of legislative matters
2 before the the general court requires a high degree of subject-matter proficiency in a large
3 number of areas on the part of members of the general court; that painstaking, exhaustive, and
4 accurate fact-finding and fiscal, economic, budgetary, and policy analysis are a necessity for the
5 proper discharge of legislative duties in a legislative body encompassing the scope of the general
6 court of Massachusetts; that professional factual and policy research and fiscal analysis are
7 recognized as valuable and indispensable tools in the efficient performance of the legislative
8 function; and that it is the intention of this act to establish offices of legislative research and
9 fiscal analysis staffed by nonpartisan, highly qualified professionals who shall perform their
10 duties impartially and in conformity with the highest standards of research practice for the
11 assistance and benefit of the members, committees, and commissions of the general court.

12 Section 2. Chapter 3 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
13 sections.

14 Section 56. There are hereby established within the general court an office of legislative
15 research and an office of fiscal analysis.

16 (a) The office of legislative research shall assist members of the general court and
17 committees thereof in all matters requiring policy analysis, comparative legal analysis, statistical
18 research, and fact-finding in connection with proposed or potential legislation or other matters
19 pertaining to the functions of the general court; assist with bill-drafting upon request by any
20 member; review bills and amendments in third reading for consistency with existing provisions
21 of the general laws;

22 prepare a detailed, section-by-section summary for each bill that reaches third reading;
23 maintain legislative history of all bills that reach third reading; and continuously review the
24 general laws for errors, inconsistencies, and other matters requiring technical revision and, from
25 time to time, submit to the counsel to the senate and to the counsel to the house of
26 representatives, jointly, recommendations, including drafts of legislation for the correction,
27 revision, amendment, rearrangement, consolidation, compilation and recodification of the
28 General Laws, or any of them, and amendments thereof, including recommendations for the
29 repeal of such statutory provisions as have become obsolete or the reasons for the enactment of
30 which have ceased to exist. In submitting recommendations under this section the office may
31 recommend the omission or repeal of redundant enactments and those which may have ceased to
32 have any effect on existing rights, the rejection or elimination of superfluous words, the
33 condensation of circuitous, tautological and ambiguous phraseology and the correction of

34 mistakes, inconsistencies and imperfections. Recommendations for changes of provisions of the
35 General Laws and amendments thereof, as provided for in this section, shall be consistent with
36 the will and intent of the general court as expressed in such provisions at the time of such
37 recommendations.

38 (b) The office of fiscal analysis shall prepare tax revenue and expenditure forecasts and
39 reviews; analyze the fiscal impact of proposed legislation, upon request of any member of the
40 general court; prepare a fiscal note for each bill that reaches third reading; and perform
41 budgetary, economic, and statistical analyses as requested by the committees on ways and
42 means.

43 (c) The offices shall make their reports and findings public in electronic form, except to
44 the extent an exemption as provided in General Laws chapter 4, section 7(26) applies to any
45 portion of such reports and findings. Notwithstanding the foregoing, communications between
46 the offices and any member, member's staff, or committee, including requests made and research
47 materials provided, are confidential and may not be disclosed to any other member, staff, or the
48 public.

49 (d) The offices of legislative research and fiscal analysis shall be provided with quarters
50 in the state house or elsewhere at a location convenient to the general court.

51 Section 57. (a) Each office shall be administered by a director. The director of each office
52 shall be appointed without regard to political affiliation by a majority vote of the following: the
53 speaker, the senate president, and the leader of the minority party in each chamber. The directors
54 shall be qualified by training, education, and experience to manage, respectively, a research and
55 fiscal analysis organization. No current or former member of the general court shall serve as

56 director of either office. The director of each office shall take an oath to faithfully and
57 impartially execute the duties of the office.

58 (b) Directors shall be appointed for a renewable term of five years from the date of
59 appointment, and shall devote full time and attention to the duties of the office. Directors shall
60 not be terminated within such term except for cause as found by the rules committees of both
61 chambers, acting concurrently, and by resolution of both chambers of the general court.

62 (c) The salary of the directors shall be set by the rules committees of both chambers,
63 acting jointly.

64 (d) The director of each office shall serve in a nonpartisan capacity and ensure that the
65 activities of the office are conducted in a nonpartisan manner. The director during the term of
66 service shall not: (i) hold, or be a candidate for, federal, state or local elected office; (ii) hold an
67 appointed office in a federal, state, or local government; or (iii) serve as an official in a political
68 party.

69 (e) In the case of an absence or vacancy in the office of the director or in the case of
70 disability, the rules committees, acting jointly, may designate an acting director to serve as
71 director until the vacancy is filled or the absence or disability ceases. The acting director shall
72 have all of the powers and duties of the director and shall have similar qualifications as the
73 director.

74 Section 58. (a) The director of each office shall be responsible for the operations of said
75 office, including the hiring of professional and research staff, administrative assistants, and other
76 qualified personnel as may be required to discharge the duties of said office, and may expend
77 with the approval of said committees such sums as may be necessary for such operations. All

78 personnel of the offices, including the directors thereof, shall be appointed without regard to
79 political affiliation and solely on the basis of their professional qualifications and fitness to
80 perform their duties, and shall take an oath to faithfully and impartially execute the duties of the
81 office. The director of each office may prescribe the duties and responsibilities of the personnel
82 thereof and delegate to them authority to exercise any of the powers and perform any of the
83 duties and functions assigned to the office or the director.

84 (b) Compensation for the personnel of each office shall be set by the director of said
85 office commensurate with qualifications, experience, and responsibilities. The directors and
86 other personnel of the offices shall not be deemed to be executive or administrative officers
87 within the meaning of the constitution, but shall serve directly under the general court. They and
88 their assistants shall not be subject to chapter thirty-one.

89 Section 59. Any member or committee may request assistance with policy research,
90 analysis, and bill drafting. Priority of requests shall be established by each director, taking into
91 consideration available resources within and outside the office, the urgency of the request, and an
92 assessment of the necessity for and likely impact of the requested research or analysis.

93 Section 60. (a) The director of each office is authorized to secure information, data,
94 estimates, and statistics directly from the various departments, divisions, agencies, and political
95 subdivisions of the commonwealth, including the units, officers, and agencies of the executive
96 branch and administrative offices of the courts of the commonwealth, as are material to the
97 proper conduct of its duties. All such departments, divisions, agencies, commissions, and
98 political subdivisions shall furnish all available data and information that each director

99 determines to be material to the performance of the duties and functions of its respective office
100 other than information the disclosure of which would be a violation of law.

101 (b) The offices shall report annually, within 90 days of the close of the fiscal year, on
102 their operations and on reports issued and bills prepared during the preceding fiscal year.

103 Section 3. Chapter 3, section 55A is hereby repealed.

104 Section 4. Chapter 3, section 53 is hereby amended by replacing the words
105 “recodification counsel under the provisions of section fifty-five A.” with the words “the director
106 of the office of legislative research under the provisions of subsection (a)(vi) section fifty-six.”

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 4368
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to release a certain sewer line easement in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representative MacGregor of Boston
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

PRIOR HISTORY

(2023-24) H4892: Favorable, referred to House Ways and Means

CURRENT LAW

Chapters 32-37 of chapter 7C, outlining the duties and powers of the division of capital and asset management relating to real property, rental of premises, and termination of lease for nonappropriation or nonallotment

SUMMARY

SECTION 1. DCAMM and MWRA may release a portion of a sewer easement to Nora LLC. The easement will be taken for constructing, maintaining, and repairing sewers, drains, manholes, and underground appertunances.

SECTION 2. The release of the easement will be in accordance with the terms and conditions from DCAMM and MWRA.

SECTION 3. The consideration is full and fair market value by DCAMM from an independent professional appraisal.

SECTION 4. Nora, LLC shall be responsible for all costs related to the authorization of the release of the easement.

HOUSE No. 4368

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William F. MacGregor

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 authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to release a certain sewer line easement in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>William F. MacGregor</i>	<i>10th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/20/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 4368

By Representative MacGregor of Boston, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of William F. MacGregor that the commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance be authorized to release a certain sewer line easement in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 4892 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act authorizing the division of capital asset management and maintenance to release a certain sewer line easement in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to allow for the division of capital asset management and maintenance to release a certain easement in the West Roxbury section of the city of Boston, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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. Notwithstanding sections 32 to 37, inclusive, of chapter 7C of the General
2 Laws or any other general or special law to the contrary, the commissioner of capital asset
3 management and maintenance, in consultation with the executive director of the Massachusetts
4 Water Resources Authority, may release by deed or other instrument for the benefit of Nora
5 LLC, owner of the premises located at 49 Charles Park road in the West Roxbury section of the
6 city of Boston, its successors or assigns, a portion of a sewer easement located on said real

7 property. The easement was taken by the office of metropolitan sewage commissioners for the
8 purpose of constructing, operating, maintaining, repairing and renewing sewers, drains,
9 manholes and underground appurtenances, dated June 5, 1897 and recorded with the Suffolk
10 county registry of deeds in book 2448, page 6. The portion of the easement to be released is
11 shown on a sketch entitled, "Proposed Surplus Sewer Easement 49 Charles Park Road, Boston"
12 dated August 24, 2019, which is on file with the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority and
13 the division of capital asset management and maintenance. The exact boundaries of the portion
14 of the easement to be released shall be determined by the commissioner of capital asset
15 management and maintenance, in consultation with the Massachusetts Water Resources
16 Authority, based upon a survey.

17 SECTION 2. The release authorized in section 1 shall be in accordance with such terms
18 and conditions as the commissioner of capital asset management and maintenance, in
19 consultation with the executive director of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, shall
20 prescribe.

21 SECTION 3. The consideration for the release authorized in section 1 shall be the full
22 and fair market value as determined by the commissioner of capital asset management and
23 maintenance based on an independent professional appraisal. The commissioner shall submit the
24 appraisal to the inspector general for review and comment. The inspector general shall review
25 such appraisal, including, but not limited to, an examination of the methodology utilized for the
26 appraisal. The inspector general shall prepare a report of such review and file the report with the
27 commissioner. The commissioner shall submit copies of the appraisal and the inspector general's
28 report and approval and comments, if any, to the house and senate committees on ways and

29 means and the joint committee on state administration and regulatory oversight prior to the
30 execution of documents affecting the release authorized by this act.

31 SECTION 4. Nora LLC, its successors or assigns shall be responsible for any costs for
32 surveys, appraisals, recording fees and other expenses relating to the release authorized in
33 section 1, as determined by the commissioner of capital asset management and maintenance.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	House, No. 4415
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to certain affordable housing and cultural space in the Brighton section of the city of Boston
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Representative Moran of Boston
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	None

CURRENT LAW

Sections 32-37 of chapter 7C, outlining the duties and powers of the division of capital and asset management relating to real property, rental of premises, and termination of lease for nonappropriation or nonallotment.

Section 39m of chapter 30, regarding contracts for construction and materials, and manner of awarding

Section 16 of chapter 30b, regarding disposition or acquisition of real property.

Sections 26-27H of chapter 149, regarding preference for employing veterans and citizens in the construction of public works; lists of jobs for public works; appeals from classifications and wage determinations; records of employees, payroll records, statement of compliance; penalties for violations; definitions of “construction” and “constructed”; employment of residents in highway districts; wages of operators of rented equipment, employees of moving contractors, and employees of maintenance or cleaning contractors.

SUMMARY

Redevelopment by the Boston Housing Authority of the Faneuil Gardens site in Boston and an adjacent parcel in the Brighton section of Boston, or an adjacent parcel to create new publicly-assisted, affordable and mixed-income housing, cultural space, replacement musician rehearsal space, and complementary uses, shall not be subject to any general or special law related to the procurement and award of contracts, including Chapter 149, Chapter 7C, or Chapter 30, Section 39M of the General Laws, nor shall the acquisition of any interest or disposition of any interest necessary to support the completion of the project be subject to Chapter 30B, Section 16, but it shall be subject to Sections 26 to 27H, inclusive, of Chapter 149 of the General Laws.

HOUSE No. 4415

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael J. Moran

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 relative to certain affordable housing and cultural space in the Brighton section of the city of Boston.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Michael J. Moran</i>	<i>18th Suffolk</i>	<i>8/13/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 4415

By Representative Michael J. Moran of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 4415) of Michael J. Moran (with the approval of the mayor and city council) relative to the procurement and award of contracts for construction of a certain affordable housing and cultural space in the Brighton section of the city of Boston. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight. [Local Approval Received.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to certain affordable housing and cultural space in the Brighton section of the city of Boston.

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. Construction and development activity related to redevelopment by the
2 Boston Housing Authority of the Faneuil Gardens site owned by the Boston Housing Authority
3 between Faneuil Street and North Beacon Street, Boston Parcel ID 2202616000, in the city of
4 Boston and the adjacent parcel at the southeast corner of North Beacon Street and Goodenough
5 Street, Boston Parcel ID 2202627000, in the Brighton section of the City of Boston, an adjacent
6 parcel, or any part thereof, to create new publicly-assisted, affordable and mixed-income
7 housing, cultural space, replacement musician rehearsal space and complementary uses, shall not
8 be subject to any general or special law related to the procurement and award of contracts for the
9 planning, design, construction management, construction, reconstruction, installation,
10 demolition, maintenance or repair of buildings or public works by a public agency, including
11 Chapter 149, Chapter 7C, or Chapter 30, Section 39M of the General Laws, nor shall the

12 acquisition of any interest or disposition of any interest necessary to support the completion of
13 the project be subject to Chapter 30B, Section 16, but it shall be subject to Sections 26 to 27H,
14 inclusive, of Chapter 149 of the General Laws.

15 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 2099
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act to provide sunlight to state government
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Eldridge, Jehlen, Keenan, O'Connor, Edwards, Tarr, and Mark; Representatives Connolly of Cambridge, Uytterhoeven of Somerville, Tyler of Boston, and Kearney of Scituate
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	HD4304 (Scotia Hille)

PRIOR HISTORY

2023-24 (S. 1963): Reported favorably; referred to Senate Ways and Means

CURRENT LAW

Section 35 of Chapter 3: Advertisement of legislative committee hearings; publication

SUMMARY

This legislation requires legislative committees to provide both electronic and physical mailing addresses prior to a hearing, make public testimony available upon request, promote diversity among expert witnesses, post committee votes on the public website, and give at least two weeks' notice before a hearing. Additionally, it extends the public records law to the office of the governor.

SENATE No. 2099

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James B. Eldridge

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 provide sunlight to state government.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>2/11/2025</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/11/2025</i>
<i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/11/2025</i>
<i>Chynah Tyler</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/27/2025</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>2/27/2025</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>3/24/2025</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>3/24/2025</i>
<i>Lydia Edwards</i>	<i>Third Suffolk</i>	<i>4/18/2025</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>4/18/2025</i>
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire</i>	<i>6/11/2025</i>

SENATE No. 2099

By Mr. Eldridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2099) of James B. Eldridge, Patricia D. Jehlen, Mike Connolly, Erika Uytterhoeven and other members of the General Court for legislation to provide sunlight to state government. Rules of the two branches, acting concurrently.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1963 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to provide sunlight to state government.

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 35 of chapter 3 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “court”, in line 2, the following
3 words:- 2 weeks before the hearing

4 SECTION 2. Said section 35 of said chapter 3, as so appearing, is hereby further
5 amended by adding the following 4 paragraphs:-

6 If public testimony is being solicited, the legislative committee’s agenda shall include an
7 electronic mail address and physical mail address for the submission of testimony. The senate
8 and house clerk shall publish such information on the official website of the general court.

9 Said public testimony received by the legislative committee that is readily capable of
10 being reproduced shall be made available to the public upon request; provided, however, that the
11 legislative committee may redact public testimony that includes sensitive personal information or
12 information that may jeopardize the health, wellness or safety of an individual.

13 If the legislative committee solicits expert testimony, the legislative committee shall
14 make reasonable efforts to promote the diversity of expert witness panels. For purposes of this
15 section and section 35A, a legislative committee shall mean a joint committee, a committee
16 consisting exclusively of senate or house members or a special commission that is chaired by a
17 member of the general court.

18 SECTION 3. Chapter 3 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section
19 35 the following section:-

20 Section 35A. The senate and house clerks shall post all recorded votes of each member of
21 a legislative committee on the website of the general court as soon as practicable but no later
22 than 48 hours of the vote being taken; provided, however, that in the 2 weeks before the
23 conclusion of all formal business of the first annual session of the general court or the 2 weeks
24 before the conclusion of the second annual session of the general court the clerk shall post all
25 recorded votes as soon as practicable.

26 SECTION 4. Subclause 26 of section 7 of chapter 4 of the General Laws, as appearing in
27 the 2020 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the figure “32,” in line 157, the
28 following words:- or office of the governor

29 SECTION 5. Section 4 shall apply to records of the office of the governor created or
30 received after noon on January 5, 2026.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 2112
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act relative to increased safety standards in the construction industry
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Collins
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1

SUMMARY

This legislation mandates safety training for all craft workers and forepersons and requires the presence of on-site safety managers for large-scale construction projects. It also requires the creation of comprehensive site safety and demolition plans prior to major construction or demolition activities. Additionally, the bill establishes updated safety standards for scaffolding, concrete formwork, perimeter protection, and sidewalk sheds. To ensure compliance, it allocates additional resources to inspection and enforcement agencies, empowering them to hold contractors to higher safety standards.

SENATE No. 2112

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Nick Collins

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 relative to increased safety standards in the construction industry.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Nick Collins

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Suffolk

SENATE No. 2112

By Mr. Collins, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2112) of Nick Collins for legislation relative to increased safety standards in the construction industry. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to increased safety standards in the construction industry.

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

1 Notwithstanding any or special law to the contrary, the appropriate agencies of the
2 commonwealth shall develop regulations to increase standards that address safety issues in the
3 construction industry;

4 Area of review for regulations shall include but not be limited to the following:

5 Craft workers

6 • 40 hours of safety training by an approved training provider, with a 10-hour refresher
7 completed on an annual basis

8 Craft foreperson

9 • 62 hours of safety training by an approved training provider, with a 10-hour refresher
10 competed on an annual bases

11 Site safety manager licensing

12 • For any project over 50,000 square feet a Site Safety Manager is required to be on-site
13 at all times

14 • To be a site safety manager you must have:

15 (i) Minimum 5 years construction safety experience

16 (ii) 40 hours SSM course

17 (iii) Safety experience background check

18 (iv) Knowledge test: 80% correct to pass

19 (v) Physical exam for fitness

20 (vi) 3 year refresher

21 Concrete, steel, excavation, façade

22 • 62-hours of safety training by an approved training provider, with a 10-hour refresher
23 completed on an annual bases

24 Site safety and demolition plan review and enforcement

25 • Require major building and demolition projects to prepare and keep current a site safety
26 plan. The plan, and subsequent updates, should be reviewed and approved by the Authority
27 Having Jurisdiction and is required to be on site for inspector review

28 Scaffolding

29 • Minimum requirements for the design, permitting, erection, maintenance, and
30 disassembly of supported and suspended scaffolds.

31 • Standards include stamped and filed drawings by a licenses design professional, use of
32 licensed master rigger for erection and dismantling of suspended scaffolds, worker training,
33 debris netting and scaffold access

34 Concrete formwork

35 • Minimum standards for the design, erection, and inspection of concrete formwork

36 • Site specific drawings to be prepared by registered design professional

37 • Engineered designs submitted for review/ approval and on site for inspectors

38 Protection of unenclosed perimeter façade

39 • Minimum requirements for perimeter protection prior to façade installation

40 • Permitted drawing by licensed design professional, requires vertical and horizontal
41 safety netting or better to be installed and maintained at all unenclosed perimeters

42 Enhancement of sidewalk shed public protection

43 • Minimum standards for the design, permitting, erection, inspection, and maintenance of
44 sidewalk shed including adjoining property protection

45 • Mandatory sidewalk sheds and site scaffolding for all projects in the Boston area

46 Inspection and enforcement

- 47 • Provide additional resources to inspection enforcement agencies to hold all General
48 Contractors to elevated safety standards
- 49 • These city and state workers who have the authority to inspect project for safety
50 compliance per the required documentation and permitting
- 51 Retain experienced inspectors
- 52 • Reclassify local building inspectors as Massachusetts public safety official to help
53 retain experienced experts in high-risk Boston environments

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 2116
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act providing for gender-neutral bathrooms
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senators Comerford, Rausch, and Kennedy
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1
<u>SIMILAR MATTERS</u>	H3317 (Rep. Mindy Domb)

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 142: Supervision of plumbing

SUMMARY

This legislation amends the State Plumbing Code to allow for gender-neutral toilet and bathing facilities to be installed in any use group defined in the state building code. The amendment applies to both newly constructed buildings and existing structures.

SENATE No. 2116

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford

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 providing for gender-neutral bathrooms.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/22/2025</i>
<i>Robyn K. Kennedy</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>	<i>3/10/2025</i>

SENATE No. 2116

By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2116) of Joanne M. Comerford and Rebecca L. Rausch for legislation to establish gender-neutral bathrooms. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1978 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing for gender-neutral bathrooms.

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 142 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 13 the
2 following section:-

3 Section 13A. The Uniform State Plumbing Code shall include regulations that allow
4 gender-neutral toilet and bathing facilities, including toilet and bathing facilities that contain
5 more than 1 toilet, urinal or shower separated by privacy walls or partitions, with separate or
6 grouped handwashing fixtures, to be designated or installed in any use group defined in the state
7 building code, regardless of whether the work being performed is new construction or repair,
8 renovation or alteration work.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

BILL NUMBER

Senate, No. 2117

TITLE

An Act providing that no state funds will be allocated to any agency, school, university, etc. that does research on animals

SPONSORS

HEARING DATE

Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1

SUMMARY

This legislation requires all animals used in research to be rehomed and provided adequate space, freedom, and social interaction. If suitable homes are not found, the institution responsible for the animal must care for them. State funds previously used for research shall be redirected to support their care.

SENATE No. 2117

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford, (BY REQUEST)

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 providing that no state funds will be allocated to any agency, school, university, etc. that does research on animals.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Jean Conway

SENATE No. 2117

By Ms. Comerford (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2117) of Jean Conway, for legislation to prohibit state funds to be allocated to any agency, school, university, etc. that does research on animals. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing that no state funds will be allocated to any agency, school, university, etc. that does research on animals.

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

1 All animals feel pain and stress. It is inhumane for humans to deliberately inflict this on
2 them. Any animals that are currently being used for research purposes will have to be rehomed
3 either by adoption or sanctuaries that can care for them. They will not be euthanized. If homes
4 can not be found for them, they will be cared for by the institutions that have them until their
5 natural death (no research on them). The state may use the canceled funds to provide for their
6 care. They will be allowed adequate space and freedom and if they are social animals they will
7 be given the opportunity for social contact with their own kind. Rats and mice are not exempt.
8 Birds, reptiles and amphibians are also included.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 2118
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act increasing government accessibility for persons who are blind or visually impaired
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Comerford
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 7: Executive Office of Administration and Finance

SUMMARY

This legislation requires all state government offices that use dial-by-name phone directories to provide an alternative call-rerouting method that does not rely on telephone keypads, ensures equal wait time for callers, and is accessible to individuals who are blind or visually impaired.

SENATE No. 2118

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford

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 increasing government accessibility for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Joanne M. Comerford

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester

SENATE No. 2118

By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2118) of Joanne M. Comerford for legislation to increase government accessibility for persons who are blind or visually impaired by implementing a system of routing calls that does not involve a key pad. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act increasing government accessibility for persons who are blind or visually impaired.

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 7 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 3F the
2 following section:-

3 Section 3G. Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter, an executive, legislative, or
4 judicial office, agency, department, division or commission of the commonwealth that utilizes a
5 dial-by-name directory shall provide, in addition to or in replacement of an existing dial-by-name
6 directory, a method of routing calls that: (i) does not require callers to use a telephone keypad;
7 (ii) prevents disparate wait times for callers who utilize such method; and (iii) is accessible to
8 persons who are blind or visually impaired.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 2119
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act providing for transparency and geographic equity in all state grant funding
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Comerford; Representative Domb of Amherst
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 7: Executive Office of Administration and Finance

SUMMARY

This legislation requires the Executive Office of Administration and Finance to create an interactive and publicly accessible dashboard with data on all state grant funding made by executive and quasi-public agencies. The dashboard must be updated annually and allow the public to sort information by factors including year-to-year change, municipality and county, agency, topic, and available versus appropriated grant funding.

The bill also requires an annual report on grant distribution with recommendations on how the state can improve geographic equity in the following year.

SENATE No. 2119

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford

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 providing for transparency and geographic equity in all state grant funding.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>2/10/2025</i>

SENATE No. 2119

By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2119) of Joanne M. Comerford and Mindy Domb for legislation to provide for transparency and geographic equity in all state grant funding by updating a public, interactive dashboard with data on all grant awards. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing for transparency and geographic equity in all state grant funding.

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 7 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section
2 4S the following section:-

3 Section 4T.(a) As used in this section, the following words shall, unless the context
4 clearly requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

5 “Executive agencies”, all departments, commissions, offices, boards, divisions,
6 institutions and other agencies within the executive department of the government of the
7 commonwealth.

8 “The office”, the executive office for administration and finance.

9 (b) The office shall establish and, on an annual basis or on a more frequent basis as
10 determined by the secretary, update a public, interactive dashboard with aggregate and
11 disaggregated data on all grant awards made by executive agencies and all quasi-public agencies

12 of the commonwealth that fiscal year. Executive agencies and all quasi-public agencies of the
13 commonwealth shall furnish the office with all data requested by the office that is needed to
14 populate the dashboard. The dashboard shall be hosted on the office's website and the data shall
15 be downloadable by members of the public. Data included in the dashboard shall be sortable by
16 different categories to provide for additional analysis, including, but not limited to, analysis of
17 geographic equity in state grant funding, and identification of patterns and trends. Said categories
18 shall include, but not be limited to: (i) year over year changes in funding for specific grant
19 programs; (ii) total and per capita grant awards by municipality; (iii) total and per capita grant
20 awards by county; (iv) executive agency or quasi-public agency of the commonwealth
21 responsible for administering the grant; (v) grant topic, such as education, agriculture, health, or
22 environment; and (vi) total amount of grant funding available for that fiscal year versus total
23 amount of grant funding appropriated.

24 (c) The office shall provide an annual report to the house and senate committees on ways
25 and means, the joint committee on municipalities and regional government and the clerks of the
26 house and the senate, not later than October 31, on geographic equity in all state grant awards.
27 The report shall provide an overview of grant funding awards from the past fiscal year,
28 including, but not limited to, comprehensive summaries of the information required by clauses i
29 to vi, inclusive, of this act, and recommendations for increasing geographic equity in grant
30 awards and grant distribution in the next fiscal year. The office shall make the report publicly
31 available on its website.

32 SECTION 2. The dashboard referenced in section 1 of this act shall be established and
33 hosted on the executive office for administration and finance's website no later than 1 year after
34 the effective date of this act.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

BILL NUMBER Senate, No. 2162

TITLE An Act providing for the creation of a Massachusetts COVID-19 Memorial

SPONSORS

HEARING DATE Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1

SUMMARY

This legislation establishes the Massachusetts COVID-19 Memorial Commission to honor those who have been affected by the pandemic. The commission shall have 19 members appointed by the Governor and other officials, representing hospitals, healthcare professionals, emergency responders, and educators. Serving a term of three years, the commission will be responsible for developing recommendations for the memorial's design, as well as developing a public health education outreach program.

SENATE No. 2162

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jason M. Lewis, (BY REQUEST)

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 providing for the creation of a Massachusetts COVID-19 Memorial.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Vincent Dixon

SENATE No. 2162

By Mr. Lewis (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2162) of Vincent Dixon, for legislation to provide for the creation of a Massachusetts COVID-19 Memorial. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 2021 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing for the creation of a Massachusetts COVID-19 Memorial.

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. The Massachusetts General Laws are hereby amended by inserting the
2 following new chapter:

3 PURPOSE:

4 The COVID-19 Pandemic, which began in the year 2020, and may well continue deep
5 into future years, and possibly further, has already taken a toll that is massive, tragic, and
6 devastating to the lives of tens of thousands, of Massachusetts residents; disrupted, and damaged
7 the lives of the people of Massachusetts, their families, schools and other educational
8 institutions, workplaces, friends; businesses, the economy, other institutions of society, and
9 more. These losses, as they mount, are also accompanied by the damage to the health, perhaps

10 for life, of many thousands of other individuals. The losses, as of the original writing of these
11 words, are already at the level previously encountered, only in previous military conflicts; and
12 these losses are likely to continue to mount, far beyond those levels.

13 Public Monuments, serve many purposes, including to honor significant persons, and to
14 remember important losses; thereby providing specific respect, and some important roles in
15 public education.

16 Therefore, this legislation, establishes a Purpose for developing a Massachusetts COVID-
17 19 Memorial.

18 SECTION 2. To establish this Memorial, this enabling legislation, authorizes the creation
19 of a Massachusetts COVID-19 Memorial Commission, to honor those who have died from the
20 virus, been injured, and/or harmed by it, and to encourage thoughtful reflection on the
21 circumstances of the Pandemic, in Massachusetts.

22 This Commission, shall have nineteen (19) members, appointed by the Governor of
23 Massachusetts, and other specified officials: One (1) designee of the Governor; One (1) designee
24 of the President of the Senate; One (1) designee of the Speaker of the House; Five (5) Chief
25 Executive Officers, or their designees, from accredited hospitals, whose primary offices, are in
26 the Commonwealth; One (1) representative of Massachusetts Nurses; One (1) representative of
27 Massachusetts Doctors; One (1) representative of Massachusetts Educators; One (1)
28 representative of EMTs; One (1) representative of Firefighters; One (1) representative of Police
29 Officers; One (1) representative of Homemakers; One (1) representative of Food Service
30 Workers; Three (3) Citizens At Large

31 SECTION 3. The life of this Commission, shall be up to three (3) years, from its
32 appointment; and it shall select a Chairperson, from among its membership.

33 This Commission, shall publicize its Mission of Memorial, and welcome any, and all,
34 appropriate ideas for a fixed Memorial, a location for such Memorial, in a statue type display,
35 and possibly including a public health educational outreach program, on viruses, vaccines, and
36 other similar effective disease controlling, and defeating; scientific, and public engaging
37 activities.

38 A Report shall be produced, with analysis, recommendations, and suggestions for such a
39 Memorial.

Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight

Bill Summary

<u>BILL NUMBER</u>	Senate, No. 2170
<u>TITLE</u>	An Act updating the flag of the Commonwealth
<u>SPONSORS</u>	Senator Mark
<u>HEARING DATE</u>	Tuesday, September 9, 2025 at 10:00 AM - 01:00 PM, A-1

CURRENT LAW

Chapter 2: Arms, great seal and other emblems of the Commonwealth

SUMMARY

This legislation establishes that the flag of the Commonwealth will be a red ensign with a green pine tree on a white field in the canton. The naval and maritime flag will feature a white rectangular field with a green pine tree on both sides.

SENATE No. 2170

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul W. Mark

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 updating the flag of the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Paul W. Mark

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and
Hampshire*

SENATE No. 2170

By Mr. Mark, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2170) of Paul W. Mark for legislation to update the flag of the commonwealth and the naval and maritime flag. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act updating the flag of the Commonwealth.

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 2 of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking section 3 and replacing it
2 with the following section-

3 Section 3. The flag of the commonwealth shall consist of a red ensign with the image of a
4 green pine tree on a white field in the canton. The naval and maritime flag of the commonwealth
5 shall consist of a white rectangular field bearing on either side a representation of a green pine
6 tree.