

HOUSE No. 2076

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Russell E. Holmes

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 resolve:

Resolve providing for a “Special Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training” to study and make recommendations concerning the implementation of a Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) system.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Russell E. Holmes</i> | <i>6th Suffolk</i> |
| <i>Bud L. Williams</i> | <i>11th Hampden</i> |
| <i>Chynah Tyler</i> | <i>7th Suffolk</i> |

HOUSE No. 2076

By Mr. Holmes of Boston, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 2076) of Russell E. Holmes, Bud L. Williams and Chynah Tyler for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to police officer standards and training. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3274 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**
—————

Resolve providing for a “Special Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training” to study and make recommendations concerning the implementation of a Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) system.

1 **Resolved**, Whereas, the Special Commission on Massachusetts Police Training
2 established under Chapter 3 of the Resolves of 2008 and the Special Commission on Sheriffs
3 established under Section 22 of Chapter 61 of the Acts of 2009 both recommended
4 Massachusetts establish a statewide Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) system for
5 overseeing law enforcement training in the Commonwealth;

6 Therefore be it resolved,

7 SECTION 1. There shall be a special commission entitled the “Special Commission on
8 Peace Officer Standards and Training” to study and make recommendations concerning the
9 implementation of a Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) system.

10 SECTION 2. The special commission shall consist of 25 members:

11 4 members of the general court, 1 of whom shall be appointed by the speaker of the

12 house, 1 of whom shall be appointed by the house minority leader, 1 of whom shall be appointed

13 by the senate president, and 1 of whom shall be appointed by the senate minority leader;

14 the chairman of the house committee on ways and means, or the chairman's designee;

15 the chairman of the senate committee on ways and means, or the chairman's designee;

16 the attorney general, or the attorney general's designee;

17 the secretary of the executive office of public safety & security, or the secretary's

18 designee;

19 the commissioner of the department of corrections, or the commissioner's designee;

20 the chief of the MBTA Transit Police Department, or the chief's designee;

21 the chief of the Mashpee Wampanoag Police Department, or the chief's designee;

22 the FBI special agent in charge - Boston, or the agent's designee;

23 a representative of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association;

24 a representative of the Massachusetts Sheriffs Association;

25 a representative of the Massachusetts Environmental Police;

26 a representative of the Massachusetts Association of Campus Law Enforcement

27 Administrators;

28 a representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee;
29 a representative of the Massachusetts District Attorney’s Association;
30 a representative of the Massachusetts Police Association;
31 a representative of the Massachusetts Coalition of Police;
32 a representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Police Coalition;
33 a representative of the New England Police Benevolent Association;
34 a representative of the Massachusetts Fraternal Order of Police;
35 a representative of the Massachusetts Harbormasters Association;
36 and a representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

37 The speaker of the house and the senate president shall determine which 2 members of
38 the special commission shall serve as co-chairmen.

39 SECTION 3. The special commission shall study and recommend the structure of a
40 commission, council or board on peace officer standards and training with adequate authority to
41 set standards for the hiring, training, ethical conduct and retention of law enforcement officers,
42 through certification, licensing, or an equivalent methodology, provided however that in
43 accordance with M.G.L. chapter 22C; section 3, any proposed POST system shall not apply to
44 the Department of the State Police. The special commission shall review the “Model Minimum
45 State Standards for POST Administration” developed by the International Association of
46 Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training (IADLEST) and the July 2010 report of
47 the special commission on Massachusetts police training in the course of their study. The special

48 commission shall also investigate various funding mechanisms for the implementation of a
49 POST system and recommend in their final report and supporting legislation a dedicated funding
50 mechanism, develop a timeline and process for implementing a POST system. The special
51 commission may hold hearings and invite testimony from experts and the public. The special
52 commission shall review and identify best practices learned from similar efforts in other states.

53 SECTION 4. The special commission shall not develop specific standards, training
54 requirements, certification requirements, or other detailed proposals that would normally be
55 considered the authority of a state commission, council or board on peace officer standards and
56 training; rather the special commission will focus on proposing how to implement such a
57 structure in the commonwealth.

58 SECTION 5. Members of the special commission shall be named and the special
59 commission shall commence its work within 60 days of the effective date of this resolve. The
60 special commission shall report to the general court the results of its study, and together with
61 draft legislation necessary to implement Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) in the
62 commonwealth by filing the same with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives
63 and the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on public safety and homeland security,
64 365 days after the effective date of this resolve.