

HOUSE No. 2776

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Nika C. Elugardo

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 the creation of a special commission relative to the seal and motto of the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balser</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel R. Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>

<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>

HOUSE No. 2776

By Representatives Sabadosa of Northampton and Elugardo of Boston, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 2776) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the seal and motto of the Commonwealth. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

Resolve providing for the creation of a special commission relative to the seal and motto of the Commonwealth.

1 **Resolved**, that a special commission is hereby established (1) for the purpose of
2 investigating the features of the official seal and motto of the commonwealth including those
3 which potentially have been unwittingly harmful to or misunderstood by the citizens of the
4 commonwealth and (2) for the purpose of examining the seal and motto of the commonwealth to
5 ensure that they faithfully reflect and embody the historic and contemporary commitments of the
6 commonwealth to peace, justice, liberty and equality and to spreading the opportunities and
7 advantages of education.

8 The commission shall make recommendations regarding a revised or new design of the
9 seal of the commonwealth and a revised or new motto of the commonwealth, as described in
10 sections 2 to 6 of chapter 2, inclusive and shall propose and design an educational program on
11 the history and meaning of the seal and motto.

12 The commission shall consist of: the Executive Director of the commission on Indian
13 affairs, who shall serve as the chair; 5 members appointed by the commission on Indian affairs
14 who are of lineal descent from tribes with government to government relations by Acts or
15 Resolves of the General Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts; the secretary of the
16 commonwealth or a designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts historical commission
17 or a designee; the executive director of the council on arts and humanities or a designee; the
18 chair of the Massachusetts arts commission or a designee; the Chair of the Mass Cultural
19 Council, the House and Senate chairs of the Joint Committee on State Administration and
20 Regulatory Authority, and 2 persons who shall be appointed by the governor.

21 The commission shall submit a detailed report with its proposals and recommendations
22 along with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect to the clerks of
23 the house of representatives and the senate, the house and senate chair of the joint committee on
24 state administration and regulatory oversight and the governor no later than December 2, 2020.
25 The clerks of the house of representatives and senate shall make the report available to the public
26 via the internet. The commission shall not receive funds appropriated by the commonwealth,
27 provided, however, that they may seek, accept and expend any grants or gifts of money,
28 professional services, consultant services, clerical and other services and supplies from the
29 federal government or any other private or public source in the course of its investigation and
30 study. The appointment of the commissioners shall occur within 60 days after the effective date
31 of this resolve. The special commission shall dissolve 60 days after the submission of the report,
32 unless upon a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote of the Commission, a continuance is deemed necessary to complete the
33 purpose of the Commission. The time frame of said continuance must be specified in the motion
34 to extend time of operation.