

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3709**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Shirley B. Arriaga***

*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 reform veterans' services at the municipal level.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Shirley B. Arriaga</i>	<i>8th Hampden</i>	<i>1/15/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3709**

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By Representative Arriaga of Chicopee, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3709) of Shirley B. Arriaga for legislation to provide for the appointment of full-time veteran’s agents or directors of veterans’ services in certain cities and towns. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act to reform veterans’ services at the municipal level.

*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 10 of chapter 115 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3           Any city or town having a population over 12,000 and having a part-time veterans’ agent  
4 or part-time director of veterans’ services shall, at the start of the fiscal year, appoint a full time  
5 veteran’s agent or director of veterans’ services. If any city or town, having a population over  
6 12,000, fails to appoint a full time veteran’s agent or director of veterans’ services, the secretary  
7 shall issue a civil penalty, not to exceed \$5,000, for each month of noncompliance. Each month  
8 of noncompliance by the city or town shall be deemed a separate offense and such penalty shall  
9 be in addition to any other penalties provided by law.