

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1078**

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**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 improvement of required standards of Clerk Magistrates.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Vincent Lawrence Dixon*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*60 Lake Street – Unit N Winchester, Mass.  
01890*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1078**

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By Mr. Lewis (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1078) of Vincent Lawrence Dixon for legislation to provide for the improvement of required standards of Clerk Magistrates. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 972 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act providing for the improvement of required standards of Clerk Magistrates.

*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 An Act to provide for the Improvement of Required Standards of Clerk Magistrates.

4 1.) Massachusetts, having developed a unique system of Clerk Magistrates, has found  
5 certain

6 inconsistencies, in this system. While this system, under various reviews, may experience  
7 significant alteration, few voices likely are opposed to the improvement of standards,

8 held by

9 those individuals appointed to these positions.

10 2.) Therefore, this Statute, establishes, and encourages, a particular additional educational  
11 standard: All Clerk Magistrates, appointed after the implementation of this Act, shall  
12 have  
13 proof of graduation, with an earned degree, from an accredited graduate Law School.

14 In addition, current Clerk Magistrates, shall be encouraged to earn a graduate Law  
15 Degree,  
16 from an accredited Law School, if they do not have one. If they do so, within seven years  
17 of the  
18 implementation of this statute, they may receive a ten-percent upward incentive bonus,  
19 for  
20 having done so; since doing so, may benefit themselves, and the public respect for the  
21 legal  
22 system.

23 3.) All individuals, meeting the requirements of this Act, shall receive additional training,  
24 and regular update training, on a yearly basis, as specified in such needed regulations, as  
25 the  
26 Attorney General, shall create, and monitor, in conjunction with the relevant supervising  
27 justices, of each appropriately defined judicial system, in the Commonwealth.