HOUSE . . . . No. 2501

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joseph D. McKenna

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 a commission on firearm licensing in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Joseph D. McKenna	18th Worcester	2/18/2021
Peter J. Durant	6th Worcester	2/18/2021
David F. DeCoste	5th Plymouth	2/19/2021
Patrick Joseph Kearney	4th Plymouth	2/22/2021
Norman J. Orrall	12th Bristol	2/26/2021
Susan Williams Gifford	2nd Plymouth	3/18/2021
Steven S. Howitt	4th Bristol	3/18/2021
Mathew J. Muratore	1st Plymouth	3/19/2021
David K. Muradian, Jr.	9th Worcester	3/19/2021
Paul F. Tucker	7th Essex	4/5/2021

HOUSE . . . . No. 2501

By Mr. McKenna of Webster, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2501) of Joseph D. McKenna and others for legislation to establish a special commission to study the firearms licensing process. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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An Act establishing a commission on firearm licensing in 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   Section 1.

2   There shall be established a commission to study the firearms licensing process in

3 Massachusetts. The commission shall (i) examine the current system of licensure as appearing

4 statewide and in each individual municipality, (ii) compare said licensure processes to the

5 different licensing standards and processes from other States, (iii) identify discrepancies that

6 exist in licensing processes between the various municipalities and between Massachusetts and

7 the various states, (iv) examine the application, approval, and denial rates and the demographics

8 thereof, for applicants in the various municipalities (v) provide recommendations to modernize

9 and improve upon or otherwise change the licensure process with particular focus on equity in

10 the licensure process (1) across all demographics (2) from town to town (3) from Massachusetts

11 to other US States.

12   Section 2.

13 The commission shall hold no fewer than four regional public hearings to gather input

14 from citizens who are or attempting to utilize the current firearm licensing system.

15 Section 3.

16 The commission shall consist of the following members: The executive director of gun

17 owners' action league or their designee who shall serve as the chair of the commission, the

18 secretary of the executive office of public safety and security or their designee, a chief of police

19 chosen by the Massachusetts chiefs of police association together with the major city police

20 chiefs association, the colonel of the state police or their designee, the director of the department

21 of mental health or their designee.

22 Section 4.

23 Within twelve months of the passage of this act, the commission shall file a report of its

24 finding and recommendations to (i) the Secretary of the Executive Office of Public Safety and

25 Security, (ii) the Clerks of the Senate and the House of Representatives, and (iii) the House and

26 Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Security, who shall within ninety

27 days of the submission of the report hold a joint public hearing on the commission's

28 recommendations.