

HOUSE No. 3479

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Gloria L. Fox

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 special commission to investigate and study methods to prevent the use of undue force by police officers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>

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By Ms. Fox of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3479) of Gloria L. Fox and others for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to investigate and study methods to prevent the use of undue force by police officers. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act establishing a special commission to investigate and study methods to prevent the use of undue force by police officers.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 There shall be a special commission established pursuant to section 2A of chapter 4 of
2 the General Laws to study and investigate methods, practices and programs designed to prevent
3 the use of undue force by police officers. The commission shall consist of 2 members of the
4 house of representatives, 1 of whom shall be nominated by the minority leader, 2 members of the
5 senate, 1 of whom shall be nominated by the minority leader, the commissioner of public safety
6 or a designee, the colonel of the state police or a designee and 7 members to be appointed by the
7 governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association
8 Incorporated, 1 of whom shall be an expert in undue force and police brutality, 1 of whom shall
9 be an expert in civil disobedience, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts
10 Association of Minority Law Enforcement Officers, Inc., 1 of whom shall be a representative of
11 the Massachusetts Black Lawyers Association, Inc. and 1 of whom shall be a representative of

12 the New England Area Conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored
13 People. The members of the commission may elect a member to serve as chair. As part of its
14 study and investigation, the commission shall review current police tactics and policing methods
15 implemented in the commonwealth, and in other states, that lead to a heightened risk of undue
16 force or violence or police brutality. The commission shall identify and analyze methods,
17 practices and programs, including those in other states, which lessen the likelihood or risk of
18 undue force by police officers. The commission shall make recommendations for which
19 methods, practices, and programs, including existing practices in the commonwealth, are
20 appropriate for policing the streets of the commonwealth in the future.