

HOUSE No. 2719

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven S. Howitt

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 prohibiting discrimination in state contracts.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Steven S. Howitt

4th Bristol

Paul Brodeur

32nd Middlesex

HOUSE No. 2719

By Mr. Howitt of Seekonk, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2719) of Steven S. Howitt and Paul Brodeur for legislation to prohibit discrimination in state contracts. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1685 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act prohibiting discrimination in state contracts.

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

1 Amend Chapter 30b, by adding the following section:

2 Section 24: Prohibition of Discrimination in State Contracts

3 A) A person that submits a bid or proposal to, or otherwise proposes to enter into or
4 renew a contract with, a state agency with respect to any contract in the amount of ten thousand
5 dollars (\$10,000) or more shall certify, under penalty of perjury, at the time the bid or proposal is
6 submitted or the contract is renewed, all of the following:

7 (1) They are in full compliance with Massachusetts Anti-Discrimination Laws (MGL
8 c. 151b, MGL c. 151e, MGL c.149, s.105A-C, MGL c.272, s.92A, MGL c.272, s.98, St.2016,
9 c.177 (effective July 2018); and

10 (2) They do not currently, and will not during the duration of the contract, refuse, fail,
11 or cease to do business with any other person when that action is based upon such other person's
12 race, color, creed, religion, sex, national origin, gender identity or sexual orientation.

13 B) Any policy adopted by a person or actions taken thereunder that are reasonably
14 necessary to comply with federal or state sanctions or laws affecting sovereign nations or their
15 nationals shall not be construed as unlawful discrimination in violation of Massachusetts Anti-
16 Discrimination Laws.

17 C) Violation of this Section shall result in rescission of the contract.