

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1488**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Michael O. Moore***

*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 resolve:

Resolve establishing a sexual assault counselor certification task force.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	
<i>Susan L. Moran</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	<i>3/3/2021</i>

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By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 1488) of Michael O. Moore and Susan L. Moran for legislation to establish a sexual assault counselor certification task force. Public Health.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1307 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

Resolve establishing a sexual assault counselor certification task force.

1           **Resolved**, that there shall be a task force to make recommendations on establishing  
2 statewide certification and to update training standards for sexual assault counselors.

3           The task force shall consist of the commissioner of the department of public health or a  
4 designee, who shall serve as chair; 1 member designated by the governor’s council, who shall  
5 address sexual assault and domestic violence issues; 1 member designated by Pathways for  
6 Change, Inc.; 1 member designated by Boston Area Rape Crisis Center; 1 member designated by  
7 the Center for Hope & Healing; 1 member from the Victim Rights Law Center, Inc.; 1 member  
8 designated by Jane Doe, Inc.; 1 member from the Massachusetts office of victim assistance; and  
9 1 member who shall be a sexual assault survivor designated by consensus of Pathways for  
10 Change, Inc., the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center and the Center for Hope & Healing.

11           The task force shall make recommendations on: (i) updating the statutory definitions of  
12 “rape crisis center” and “sexual assault counselor” in section 20J of chapter 233 of the general  
13 laws; (ii) the curriculum and number of training hours required for certification of rape crisis  
14 center and program employees; (iii) the curriculum and number of training hours required for  
15 volunteer positions; (iv) the appropriateness of “levels” of certification and corresponding  
16 criteria for each; (v) a fee structure for certification; (vi) the feasibility of and costs associated  
17 with establishing and maintaining licensure of rape crisis centers; and (vii) the feasibility of  
18 providing continuing education and college credits with the completion of training programs.

19           The task force shall submit a report outlining its findings, along with any proposed  
20 legislation, to the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives and to the chairs of the  
21 senate and house committees on ways and means not later than 12 months after the effective date  
22 of this act.