

SENATE No. 1607

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John C. Velis

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 relative to increasing public safety.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| <i>John C. Velis</i> | <i>Hampden and Hampshire</i> | |
| <i>Brian M. Ashe</i> | <i>2nd Hampden</i> | <i>3/8/2023</i> |

SENATE No. 1607

By Mr. Velis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1607) of John C. Velis and Brian M. Ashe for legislation relative to increasing public safety. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to increasing public safety.

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. Chapter 90C of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2022 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended, in Section 2, by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place
3 thereof the following paragraph:-

4 “Each police chief shall issue citation books to each permanent full-time police officer of
5 his department whose duties may or will include traffic duty or traffic law enforcement, or
6 directing or controlling traffic, and to such other officers as he at his discretion may determine.
7 Each Sheriff may issue citation books to each deputy sheriff of his or her department whose
8 duties may or will include traffic duty or traffic law enforcement, or directing or controlling
9 traffic, and to such other deputy sheriffs he or her at his or her discretion may determine. Each
10 police chief or Sheriff shall obtain a receipt on a form approved by the registrar from such officer
11 to whom a citation book has been issued. Each police chief or Sheriff shall also maintain citation
12 books at police or Sheriff’s department headquarters for the recording of automobile law
13 violations by police officers or deputy sheriffs to whom citation books have not been issued. The

14 executive office of public safety and security shall promulgate rules and regulations establishing
15 the standards required by this section for the issuance of electronic citations, including the proper
16 equipment to be maintained by each department. In lieu of issuing citation books or in addition
17 thereto, each police chief or Sheriff whose department issues citations electronically may grant
18 authority to do so to each police officer or deputy sheriff of his or her department who has been
19 trained pursuant to the regulations promulgated pursuant to this section.

20 SECTION 2. Section 1 of chapter 90C of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
21 amended by inserting in the definition of “Police Chief” after the words “the colonel of state
22 police” the following words: “the Sheriff of a county.”