

ORGANIZED
NOVEMBER 3, 1887



INCORPORATED
MAY 2, 1949

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Bentley University (Campus)

Life Member
Chief Peter F. Roddy (Ret.)

Senator William N. Brownsberger
Joint Committee on the Judiciary
Room 504, State House
Boston, MA 02133

Representative John V. Fernandes
Joint Committee on the Judiciary
Room 136, State House
Boston, MA 02133

October 1, 2015

RE: Protecting Transgender Individuals in Places of Public Accommodation

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

On behalf of the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association and the Massachusetts Major City Chiefs, we write this letter in support of S. 735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H. 1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. The proposed legislation would add gender identity as a protected category under our state's public accommodation anti-discrimination provisions.

We believe that the proposed legislation will improve public safety in Massachusetts. Unfortunately, transgender people are frequently the target of criminal conduct, particularly in public spaces. In the jurisdictions where gender identity discrimination is prohibited in places of public accommodation, we have found that these incidents are reduced as a result of such protections.

There is no reason to believe that individuals – whether transgender or otherwise – will use these protections as cover to enter into the restroom or locker room of the opposite sex and engage in criminal misconduct. We are aware of no such incidents that have occurred in Massachusetts communities that already have such protections in place.

Finally, based on the experience of our members who work in localities that already protect transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, implementation will be straightforward and uncomplicated.

We respectfully request that the Committee favorably report the bills out of committee. Should you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Chief William G. Brooks III
Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association

Chief Brian A. Kyes
Massachusetts Major City Chiefs

Town of



AMHERST

Massachusetts

Amherst Police Department
111 Main Street
Amherst, Massachusetts
01002

Scott P. Livingstone
Chief of Police
Business (413) 259-3000
Chief (413) 259-3014
Records (413) 259-3016
Fax (413) 259-2408
police@amherstma.gov

September 24, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger, Chairman Fernandes, and members of the Committee:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Amherst is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local bylaw to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our policy prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Amherst's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing the change to our bylaws has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (413) 259-3014.

Sincerely,

Scott P. Livingstone
Chief of Police

October 2, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

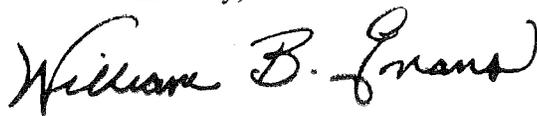
I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Boston is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

To my knowledge as Police Commissioner for the City of Boston, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces, including restrooms, and implementation of our ordinance has been straightforward.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 343-4500.

Sincerely,



William B. Evans
Police Commissioner



DANIEL C. O'LEARY
CHIEF OF POLICE

BROOKLINE POLICE DEPARTMENT
Brookline Massachusetts

October 2, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Brookline is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Brookline's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 730-2249.

Sincerely,

Daniel C. O'Leary
Chief of Police





*City of Cambridge
Police Department*

TELEPHONE
(617) 349-3300

FAX
(617) 349-3320

WEB
www.cambridgepolice.org

Robert C. Haas
Police Commissioner

Richard C. Rossi
City Manager

September 28, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination and H.1577, An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Cambridge is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Police Commissioner for the City of Cambridge Police Department, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces, including restrooms. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 349-9397.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Haas', written over a white background.

Robert C. Haas
Police Commissioner



City of Lynn Police Department

300 Washington Street, Lynn, Massachusetts 01902-4718 (781) 595-2000 Fax (781) 477-7069



Kevin F. Coppinger
Chief of Police

Leonard E. Desmarais
Deputy Chief of Police

Elizabeth A. Polonsky
Confidential Assistant

Michael A. Mageary
Deputy Chief of Police

October 2, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

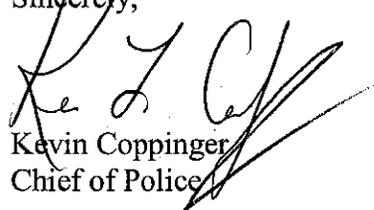
I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Lynn is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

Although our ordinance was passed just recently, I can attest as Chief of the Lynn Police Department that I have no concerns about implementing it. I am hopeful that as the public becomes better educated in this regard, the acceptance of all people, including transgender individuals, will become more widespread. I expect our community will be safer because transgender individuals now have equal protections under local ordinance. The passing of S.735 and H.1577 will likewise bring these protections state-wide.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (781) 599-7035.

Sincerely,



Kevin Coppinger
Chief of Police



LEO A. SACCO, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

MEDFORD POLICE

100 MAIN STREET
MEDFORD, MASSACHUSETTS 02155
EMERGENCY: 911
(781) 395-1212
GENERAL INFO.: (781) 391-6404
FAX: (781) 395-5177

September 30, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Room 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Room 136
Boston, MA 02133

Re: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger, Chairman Fernandes and Members of the Committee

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and non-discrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Medford is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Medford's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protection.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (781) 391-6408.

Sincerely,

Leo A. Sacco, Jr.
Chief of Police

LAS/ae



CITY OF MELROSE

POLICE DEPARTMENT

MICHAEL L. LYLE
Chief

Office of the Chief
56 West Foster Street
Melrose, Massachusetts 02176
Telephone - (781) 979-4461
Facsimile - (781) 979-8051

September 24, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

Re: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination and H.1577, An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Melrose is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Melrose's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge we have had no safety concerns

related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (781)979-4461.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Lyle
Chief of Police

Cc: Rachel A. Culley, Asst. Attorney General



City of Newton Police Department



TELEPHONE
(617) 796-2101
FAX # (617) 796-3679

Office of the Chief of Police
HEADQUARTERS
1321 WASHINGTON STREET
NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02465

HOWARD L. MINTZ
CHIEF OF POLICE

September 30, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

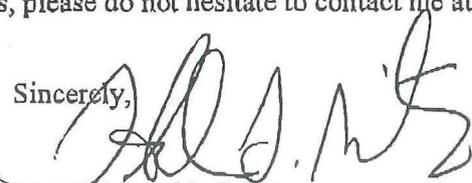
Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Newton is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Newton's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces, including restrooms. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 796-2101.

Sincerely,

Chief Howard L. Mintz





NORTHAMPTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jody D. Kasper
CHIEF OF POLICE



29 CENTER STREET, NORTHAMPTON, MA 01060-3090 (413) 587-1100 FAX (413) 587-1137

September 18, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Northampton is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Northampton's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces, including restrooms. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (413) 587-1100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chief Jody Kasper".

Chief Jody Kasper



NORTHAMPTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Jody D. Kasper
CHIEF OF POLICE



29 CENTER STREET, NORTHAMPTON, MA 01060-3090 (413) 587-1100 FAX (413) 587-1137

September 18, 2015

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Northampton is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Northampton's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces, including restrooms. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (413) 587-1100.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chief Jody Kasper". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Chief Jody Kasper



City of Salem, Massachusetts

Police Department Headquarters

CHIEF OF POLICE
MARY E. BUTLER

September 22, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Salem is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Salem's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (978) 744-2204.

Very truly,

Mary Butler
Chief of Police



David Fallon
Chief of Police

City of Somerville Police Department

220 Washington Street
Somerville, MA 02143-1307
(617) 625-1600
www.somervillepolice.org



September 30, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Somerville is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Chief of the Somerville Police Department, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces, including restrooms. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (617) 625-1600.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "DF", written over a light blue rectangular stamp.

Chief David Fallon

TOWN OF SWAMPSCOTT

Police Department

531 Humphrey Street
Swampscott, Mass. 01907

Tel: (781) 595-1111
Fax: (781) 592-7472

September 24, 2015



RONALD J. MADIGAN
CHIEF OF POLICE



PAULA A. BENNETT
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Swampscott is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local policy to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals.

As Swampscott's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that this policy is in keeping with the mission of our police department to provide equal service and protection to all of our citizens without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, or disability. Implementing our policy has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces, including restrooms. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (781) 595-1111.

Sincerely,

Ronald J. Madigan
Chief of Police



DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
CITY OF WORCESTER
MASSACHUSETTS 01608-1172
(508) 799-8600



GARY J. GEMME
CHIEF OF POLICE

September 24, 2015

The Honorable William Brownsberger
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 504
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable John Fernandes
House Chair, Joint Committee on the Judiciary
State House, Rm 136
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Transgender Discrimination in Public Accommodations

Dear Chairman Brownsberger and Chairman Fernandes:

I submit this letter in support of S.735, *An Act relative to transgender anti-discrimination* and H.1577, *An Act relative to gender identity and nondiscrimination*. This legislation would explicitly include gender identity in Massachusetts' public accommodations anti-discrimination laws.

Worcester is one of the thirteen municipalities in Massachusetts that has already enacted a local ordinance to provide protection to transgender individuals in places of public accommodation, such as restaurants, retail establishments, and hospitals. Our ordinance prohibits the same discriminatory conduct as the proposed legislation.

As Worcester's Chief of Police, I can personally attest that implementing our ordinance has been straightforward and uncomplicated. Additionally, to my knowledge, we have had no safety concerns related to transgender individuals using sex-segregated spaces, including restrooms. In contrast, our community is safer because transgender individuals have equal protections.

Thank you and the members of the Joint Committee for considering these comments while reviewing S.735 and H.1577. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (508) 799-8611.

Respectfully,

Gary J. Gemme
Chief of Police