

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, BRIAN WORRELL, ED FLYNN, BREADON, COLETTA ZAPATA, DURKAN, FITZGERALD, MEJIA, MURPHY, PEPÉN, SANTANA AND WEBER



CITY OF BOSTON
IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FIVE
HOME RULE PETITION

WHEREAS, 9-1-1 dispatchers, also known as public safety telecommunicators, manage emergency and non-emergency communications and play a key role in public safety by collecting vital information, offering medical guidance, and helping de-escalate crises while coordinating real-time responses; *and*

WHEREAS, These professionals are currently misclassified under both state and federal systems as clerical workers, a categorization that does not reflect the complexity, stress, and danger associated with their role, and excludes them from benefits afforded to other first responders; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston Police Department's Operations Division serves as the City's primary agency for receiving, transmitting, and dispatching emergency and non-emergency calls for law enforcement, emergency, medical, and other public safety services, and for supervising employees who perform those functions; *and*

WHEREAS, The Boston Police Department seeks that all Operations Division civilian positions are properly classified with the City of Boston as public safety first responders to comport with the extensive regimen of training, education, and certification necessary to cut out these roles; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston conferred upon Boston Police Department Operations Division civilian employees' recognition, dignity and respect for their devotion to an exceptionally difficult and demanding profession via Executive Order of April 14, 2023; *and*

WHEREAS, The City of Boston understands that the designation of Operations Division civilian employees as public safety employees requires a change in state law to become effective; **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT**

ORDERED: That a petition to the General Court, accompanied by a bill for a special law relating to the City of Boston to be filed with an attested copy of this Order be, and hereby is, approved under Clause One (1) of Section Eight (8) of Article Two (2), as amended, of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to the end that legislation be adopted precisely as follows, except for clerical or editorial changes of form only:

**PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT RELATIVE TO CITY OF BOSTON
CERTIFIED EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATORS**

SECTION 1.

Group 2 of paragraph (g) of subdivision (2) of section 3 of chapter 32 of the General Laws, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “hospital” the following: all full-time dispatchers, dispatch supervisors, communications center directors or communications chiefs certified by the state 911 Department as Certified Telecommunicators as defined by MA 560 CMR 5.04

SECTION 2.

The provisions of this act are severable and if any provision, or portion thereof, should be held to be unconstitutional or otherwise invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality or invalidity shall not affect the remaining provisions, which remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3.

This act shall take effect upon its passage.