

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS GABRIELA COLETTA ZAPATA, ENRIQUE PEPÉN,  
HENRY SANTANA, BREADON, DURKAN, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FITZGERALD,  
FLYNN, MEJIA, MURPHY, WEBER, WORRELL, AND LOUIJEUNE



## **CITY OF BOSTON**

**IN THE YEAR TWO THOUSAND TWENTY FOUR**

### **HOME RULE PETITION FOR A SPECIAL LAW RE: AN ACT RELATIVE TO RAISING THE MAXIMUM AGE REQUIREMENT FOR ENTRANCE TO THE BOSTON POLICE ACADEMY**

- WHEREAS,** Applicants for the Boston Police Department (BPD) are expected to meet a variety of requirements in order to become eligible for the Boston Police Academy; *and*
- WHEREAS,** To enter the Boston Police Academy an individual must be between 21-39 years of age. However, there are many Boston residents over the 39 year old maximum that are capable and willing to enter the force; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Some Boston neighborhoods are facing a shortage of police officers, creating concerns over BPD capacity to deliver efficient and effective community safety services. Raising the age requirement for entrance into the Boston Police Academy could help alleviate some of the labor shortages strains on local precincts; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Throughout each legislative term, the Boston City Council has frequently filed Home Rule Petitions to individually waive the maximum age requirement for Boston residents who aspire to serve our communities causing a delay in qualified candidates to begin training and eventually join the force; *and*
- WHEREAS,** Raising the maximum age requirement would allow more residents with different life experiences and backgrounds to become Boston police officers and better serve the City; **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 RAISING THE AGE  
REQUIREMENT FOR ENTRANCE TO THE BOSTON POLICE ACADEMY**

SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 43 as appearing in the Acts of 2007 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking the word “fortieth” and inserting in place thereof the following word: “forty-fifth”.

SECTION 2.

This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Filed on: June 5, 2024