

**HOUSE . . . . . No.****The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***James K. Hawkins****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 ensuring law enforcement identification and public trust.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>7/7/2025</i>
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>	<i>7/8/2025</i>
<i>Danillo A. Sena</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/8/2025</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>7/8/2025</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/9/2025</i>
<i>Manny Cruz</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>7/11/2025</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/10/2025</i>
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/9/2025</i>
<i>Tara T. Hong</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/9/2025</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>7/9/2025</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>7/14/2025</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>	<i>7/9/2025</i>
<i>Liz Miranda</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	<i>7/9/2025</i>
<i>Steven Owens</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/9/2025</i>
<i>Amy Mah Sangiolo</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/9/2025</i>
<i>Greg Schwartz</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	<i>7/10/2025</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>7/11/2025</i>
<i>Leigh Davis</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>7/17/2025</i>

*Lydia Edwards*

*Third Suffolk*

*7/17/2025*

# HOUSE . . . . . No.

---

By Representative Hawkins of Attleboro, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of James K. Hawkins and others relative to penalties for law enforcement officers wearing masks or personal disguises while interacting with the public in the performance of their duties. The Judiciary.

---

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act ensuring law enforcement identification and public trust.

*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. Section XXXX is added to the Massachusetts Penal Code, to read:

2           MGL Chapter 41, Section 98

3           (a) A law enforcement officer shall not wear any mask or personal disguise while  
4 interacting with the public in the performance of their duties, except for medical grade masks  
5 that are surgical or N95 respirators designed to prevent the transmission of airborne diseases and  
6 masks designed to protect against exposure to smoke or toxins during a state of emergency.

7           (b) A violation of this section shall be punishable as a misdemeanor.

8           (c) (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to ensure that Special  
9 Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team officers can utilize gear necessary to protect their faces from  
10 physical harm while they perform their SWAT responsibilities.

11           (2) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to require law enforcement  
12 officers to include their name or badge number on their uniforms.

13           (d) For the purposes of this section, “law enforcement officer” means any officer of a  
14 local, state, or federal law enforcement agency, or any person acting on behalf of a local, state, or  
15 federal law enforcement agency.

16           (e) The provisions of this section are severable. If any provision of this section or its  
17 application is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications that can  
18 be given effect without the invalid provision or application.

19           No cost or reimbursement is required by this act