



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

**PAUL HEROUX**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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**RE: H2136 An Act to establish and award grants for the reduction of violence in municipalities**  
**DT: 2 December 2015**

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security,

Thank you for considering *H2136, An Act to establish and award grants for the reduction of violence in municipalities* before your committee on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

This bill is based upon the findings in the renowned Kansas City Gun Experiment. It is a thoughtful approach to reducing gun violence where it happens by the people doing it by training the police in detection techniques. This bill awards money to cities to do problem-oriented policing, hot-spot tactics, special training in the detection of carrying concealed weapons, directed police patrolling, and proactive arrests of serious repeat offenders.

Not all municipalities would qualify for a grant as there are criteria established in the language of the bill that would identify which gun ridden communities qualify. If municipalities do not take advantage of the grant program the money goes back to the general fund. If they do, the effectiveness of this program will result in a return on investment through decreased criminal justice and incarceration costs. This has been demonstrated in other communities.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that *H2136, An Act to establish and award grants for the reduction of violence in municipalities* be released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Heroux".

Paul Heroux