



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

JONATHAN HECHT  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
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WATERTOWN • CAMBRIDGE  

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STATE HOUSE, ROOM 22

Committees:  
Children, Families & Persons with Disabilities  
Municipalities and Regional Government  
Transportation  
Public Health  

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December 19, 2019

Representative Danielle W. Gregoire  
Senator Marc R. Pacheco  
Chairs, Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight  
State House, Room 22  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chair Gregoire and Chair Pacheco,

I write in support of H.2776, *A Resolve providing for the creation of a special commission relative to the seal and motto of the Commonwealth.*

The current seal of the Commonwealth, with its stylized depiction of a Native American and images of violence and subjugation, is offensive to Native Americans and inconsistent with our state's contemporary commitment to peace, equality and justice. The time is right to change it. The commission established by this Resolve would develop proposals for a new design of the seal and an associated educational program on its history and significance. This is an appropriate mechanism for undertaking a thoughtful revision of this important state symbol.

I respectfully request that your Committee give H.2776 a favorable report.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Hecht", written over the "Best regards," text.

Jonathan Hecht