



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STATE HOUSE, ROOM 134 BOSTON 02133-1064

REP. ALICE K. WOLF  
REPRESENTING THE PEOPLE  
OF CAMBRIDGE

STATE HOUSE TEL. (617) 722-2400  
STATE HOUSE FAX (617) 722-2860  
DISTRICT TEL. (617) 868-9053  
E-Mail Rep.AliceWolf@house.state.ma.us

Vice Chair  
Committee on Municipalities & Regional Government  
Member, Committee on Ways & Means  
Member, Committee on Education

June 7, 2005

Joint Committee on the Judiciary  
State House Room 138  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairman O'Flaherty, Chairman Creedon, and Honorable Members of the Committee:

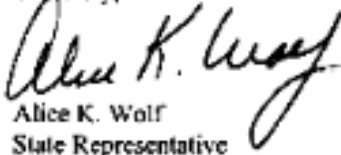
I write in support of House Bill 706, *Resolve to Establish a Special Commission to Investigate the Integration of International Human Rights Standards into Massachusetts State Law and Policies*. I am a co-sponsor of this bill.

House Bill 706 establishes a special commission to hold public hearings in order to investigate how international human rights standards are being implemented and integrated into Massachusetts law and policy. By conducting such an investigation, the commission will work to set a framework for minimum standards for providing fair access to basic needs such as housing, education and health care. Such a study will also point out areas where government systems result in discriminatory policies.

This bill would provide an opportunity for Massachusetts to be a leader in promoting and advancing human rights. By moving forward in this manner, Massachusetts can join Pennsylvania in encouraging our federal government to adopt international human rights standards.

I ask the Committee to favorably report House Bill 706. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

  
Alice K. Wolf  
State Representative