



House Bill 203

Labor and Employment – Training Repayment Agreements - Prohibition

Position: **OPPOSE**

To: Government, Labor and Elections Committee

Date: February 3, 2026

From: County Commissioners of Worcester County

Worcester County opposes House Bill 203, as it would prohibit training repayment agreements.

Training repayment agreements allow employers to invest responsibly in workforce training. Worcester County currently has training reimbursement agreements for correctional officer trainees, deputy sheriffs, roads workers and emergency communications specialists. If someone in one of these positions quits before their probationary period is over, they reimburse the county for their training. In the case of a deputy sheriff, training costs more than \$3,000 and it is not uncommon for an individual to quit during their time at the academy. Without a training repayment agreement, there is no accountability for the new hire and the financial burden is solely on the county. Statewide, employers will likely be less willing to offer training opportunities if repayment agreements are prohibited.

We ask you not to move House Bill 203 forward. Thank you.