

By Mrs. Metayer of Braintree, petition of Elizabeth N. Metayer for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the feasibility of implementing a system of presumptive sentencing for crimes. Criminal Justice.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Two.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE FEASIBILITY OF IMPLEMENTING A SYSTEM OF PRESUMPTIVE SENTENCING FOR CRIMES.

1 *Resolved*, That a special commission, to consist of three mem-  
2 bers of the senate, five members of the house of representatives,  
3 and ten persons to be appointed by the governor, three of whom  
4 shall be members of the judiciary, three of whom shall be probation  
5 officers, three of whom shall be law enforcement officers, and one  
6 of whom shall be a former inmate of a correctional facility of the  
7 commonwealth, is hereby established for the purpose of making an  
8 investigation and study into the feasibility of implementing a sys-  
9 tem of presumptive sentencing for conviction of crime, including  
10 the establishment of a narrow range of sentences applicable to each  
11 offense for which a person may be convicted. Said investigation  
12 and study shall also consider the possibility of (a) permitting judges  
13 to impose sentences outside of such range, provided that the judge  
14 issue a written opinion setting forth the reasons for such sentence,  
15 (b) of permitting either the commonwealth or the defendant to  
16 appeal from the imposition of any sentence, (c) of removing the  
17 possibility of parole from any sentence imposed, and (d) of permit-  
18 ting sentences for first-time offenders to consist only of community  
19 work and restitution.

