

**SENATE . . . . . No. 711**

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By Mr. Berry, petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 711) of Frederick E. Berry and Kevin M. Burke, that provision be made for an investigation and study by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the certification of experts in the area of child sexual abuse. The Judiciary.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

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RESOLVE ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO CERTIFY EXPERTS IN THE AREA OF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE.

1 *Resolved*, That a commission should be created to study the  
2 feasibility of establishing a Board whose function would be to  
3 draft standards and qualifications for individuals in the area of  
4 child sexual abuse, and to certify individuals who meet those  
5 qualifications as having acknowledged and recognized expertise  
6 in the area of child sexual abuse.

7 Said Board Certified individuals may be used as a resource by  
8 the various Courts, Probation Departments, District Attorneys'  
9 Offices, Department of Social Services or other designated State  
10 Agencies to assist them in assessing and evaluating cases where  
11 a child under the age of sixteen years is alleged to be the victim  
12 of sexual abuse.

13 The Legislative Commission is to be comprised of members of  
14 the Senate and House of Representatives, representatives of the  
15 Judiciary and District Attorneys' Offices, the Commissioner of  
16 the Department of Social Services, or his designee, and  
17 representatives of Pediatric and Psychiatric Associations, and  
18 other individuals deemed necessary and appropriate by said  
19 named representatives.

