

By Ms. Reinstein of Revere, petition of Kathi-Anne Reinstein and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the status of long-term care services for veterans. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Kathi-Anne Reinstein  
Barbara A. L'Italien

John P. Fresolo  
Jennifer M. Callahan

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

RESOLVE TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO EVALUATE THE STATUS OF MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS LONG TERM CARE SERVICES.

1 *Resolved*, There is hereby established a special commission to  
2 evaluate the status of Massachusetts' veterans long term care serv-  
3 ices, the need of such veterans for long term care services, and the  
4 feasibility of establishing comprehensive long term care services for  
5 such veterans. Said study shall include, but not be limited to, an  
6 examination of the following factors:—

7 (1) an exhaustive analysis of the number of veteran's who may  
8 need institutional care and community-based long term care services  
9 in the Commonwealth;

10 (2) the extent and nature of long term care services currently  
11 available to such veterans;

12 (3) an itemized list by location and size of any and all federally  
13 owned facilities or spaces that may serve as long term care facilities  
14 that may provide such services to such veterans, including the  
15 number of empty beds, so-called, per facility that may be available  
16 for the provision of such services;

17 (5) a cost-benefit analysis of the number of beds required to serve  
18 any and all veterans that may not currently have access to such long  
19 term care services;

20 (6) the Commonwealth's liability for subsidizing any and all long  
21 term care services that the commission deems necessary to provide  
22 quality care to such veterans;

23 (7) a detailed and actuarially-sound assessment of the costs asso-  
24 ciated with establishing an independent program of long term care  
25 for such veterans who may be in need of long term care in Massa-  
26 chusetts; and

27 (8) the availability of federal financial participation in estab-  
28 lishing or expanding long term care services to such veterans.

29 Said commission shall consist of the secretary of administration  
30 and finance, the commissioner of the division of medical assistance,  
31 the commissioner of the division of health care finance and policy,  
32 the commissioner of the department of public health, the secretary of  
33 elder affairs, the commissioner of the department of veterans serv-  
34 ices, and the commandants of the Chelsea and Holyoke soldier's  
35 homes and four persons to be appointed by the governor, one of  
36 whom shall be a representative of the extended care federation, one  
37 of whom shall be a representative of health care for all, and two of  
38 whom shall be citizens who shall represent the interests of such vet-  
39 erans: and two members of the house and one member of the senate.

40 Said commission shall file a report on the results of its study,  
41 together with recommendations and any legislation necessary to  
42 carry its recommendations into effect with the clerks of the house of  
43 representatives and the senate, and the house and senate committees  
44 on ways and means, no later than March 25, 2009.