

By Mr. Verga of Gloucester, petition of Anthony J. Verga and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of the effects of war on returning service members. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Anthony J. Verga
Barbara A. L'Italien
Angelo M. Scaccia

Frank I. Smizik
Alice K. Wolf
Denise Provost

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT CREATING A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO STUDY THE EFFECTS OF WAR ON RETURNING MASSACHUSETTS SERVICE MEMBERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Be it resolved that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts create an
2 11-member special commission to study the mental health effects of
3 war on the citizens of the Commonwealth who are returning from
4 active military duty. This commission shall consist of a representa-
5 tive from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI-Mass); the
6 speaker of the house of representatives, or his designee; the presi-
7 dent of the senate, or his designee; the minority leader of the house
8 of representatives, or his designee; the minority leader of the senate,
9 or his designee; the chairpersons of the joint committee on veterans
10 and federal affairs, or their designee; the chairpersons of the joint
11 committee on mental health and substance abuse, or their designee;
12 the adjunct general of the national guard, or his designee; the secre-
13 tary of veterans services, or his designee; and two designees of the
14 governor. Results of the commission shall include, but not be limited
15 to an analysis of the need for change in the laws and regulations
16 relative thereto, and shall be reported to the joint committee on vet-
17 erans and federal affairs and to the clerks of the house and senate no
18 later than April 1, 2008.

