

By Mr. Connolly of Everett, petition of Edward G. Connolly and other members of the General Court for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the status of long term care services for veterans. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Three.

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
5 for such veterans. Said study shall include, but not be limited to,
6 an examination of the following factors: (1) an exhaustive
7 analysis of the number of veteran's who may need institutional
8 care and community-based long term care services in the Com-
9 monwealth; (2) the extent and nature of long term care services
10 currently available to such veterans; (3) an itemized list by loca-
11 tion and size of any and all federally owned facilities or spaces
12 that may serve as long term care facilities that may provide such
13 services to such veterans, including the number of empty beds, so-
14 called, per facility that may be available for the provision of such
15 services; (5) a cost-benefit analysis of the number of beds
16 required to serve any and all veterans that may not currently have
17 access to such long term care services; (6) the commonwealth's
18 liability for subsidizing any and all long term care services that
19 the commission deems necessary to provide quality care to such
20 veterans; (7) a detailed and actuarially-sound assessment of the
21 costs associated with establishing an independent program of long
22 term care for such veterans who may be in need of long term care
23 in Massachusetts; and (8) the availability of federal financial par-
24 ticipation in establishing or expanding long term care services to
25 such veterans.

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

38 Said commission shall file a report on the results of its study,
39 together with recommendations and any legislation necessary to
40 carry its recommendations into effect with the clerks of the house
41 of representatives and the senate, and the house and senate com-
42 mittees on ways and means, no later than March 25, 2004.