

By Mr. Demers of Chicopee, petition of Richard H. Demers for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the solicitation methods utilized by religious and charitable groups. Commerce and Labor.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY BY A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE SOLICITATION METHODS UTILIZED BY RELIGIOUS AND CHARITABLE GROUPS.

1 *Resolved*, That a special commission to consist of three
2 members of the Senate, five members of the House of Representa-
3 tives, the Secretary of State or his designee, the Attorney General
4 or his designee and two persons to be appointed by the Governor is
5 hereby established for the purpose of making an investigation and
6 study relative to the solicitation methods utilized by religious and
7 charitable groups and organizations in the Commonwealth and, in
8 the course of its investigation and study, shall consider all relevant
9 statutes, regulations and procedures pertaining to the granting,
10 withholding and voiding of Certificates of Incorporation to
11 religious and charitable groups or institutions and to the statutes,
12 regulations and procedures pertaining to the methods utilized by
13 said groups and organizations in the solicitation, use and disposal
14 of funds.

15 Said Commission shall consider whether modifications of said
16 statutes, regulations or procedures are desirable in order to protect
17 the public interest.

18 Said Commission may involve in advisory roles such persons,
19 groups and organizations, public or private, as it deems ap-
20 propriate.

21 Said Commission shall report to the General Court the results of
22 its investigation and study and its recommendations, if any,
23 together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its recommen-
24 dations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the House of
25 Representatives on or before the first Wednesday of December,
26 nineteen hundred and seventy-nine.

