

HOUSE No. 2059

By Mr. Ryan of Haverhill, petition of Albert Joseph DeLuca for legislation to abolish county government and establishing a special commission having the power to transfer county government functions to the Commonwealth and to cities and towns. Counties.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT ABOLISHING COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL COMMISSION HAVING THE POWER TO TRANSFER COUNTY GOVERNMENT FUNCTIONS TO THE COMMONWEALTH AND TO CITIES AND TOWNS.

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

1 SECTION 1. The system of county government as existing
2 in the commonwealth, including the powers and duties of all
3 county offices and all elected and appointed county officials
4 and all other county governmental functions, is hereby abol-
5 ished.

1 SECTION 2. There is hereby established a special com-
2 mission, to consist of two members of the senate to be ap-
3 pointed by the president, three members of the house of
4 representatives to be appointed by the speaker, and ten persons
5 to be appointed by the governor, two of whom shall be present
6 elected county officials, for the purpose of transferring all the
7 functions, powers and duties of county government, as set
8 forth in section one, to whatever agencies of the common-
9 wealth or of the cities or towns which said commission shall
10 deem appropriate to carry out said functions, powers and
11 duties. Said transfer shall include, but not be limited to, the
12 operation of the following county functions: the courts, the
13 jails and houses of correction, the sheriffs departments, the
14 registries of deeds and probate, airports, planning com-
15 missioners, county hospitals, law libraries, training schools, agri-
16 cultural and technical schools, park and recreational services,
17 and public works projects.

