

HOUSE No. 1968

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Colleen M. Garry

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act establishing a special commission on ovarian cancer.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Barbara L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

HOUSE No. 1968

By Miss Garry of Dracut, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1968) of Colleen M. Garry, Barbara L'Italien and Benjamin Swan for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) on ovarian cancer prevention, screening, education and support programs . Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act establishing a special commission on ovarian cancer.

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

1 Resolved, that a special commission, to consist of 13 members as follows: the secretary
2 of the executive office of health and human services, or a designee; the commissioner of public
3 health, or a designee; the commissioner of insurance, or a designee; and 10 members who shall
4 be appointed as follows: 3 members appointed by the senate president, 1 of whom shall be the
5 senate chairman of the joint committee on public health, or a designee, 1 of whom shall be a
6 person with Ovarian Cancer and 1 of whom is a medical specialist in Ovarian Cancer; 3
7 members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, 1 of whom shall be the house
8 chairman of the joint committee on public health, or a designee, 1 of whom shall be a person
9 with Ovarian Cancer and 1 of whom is a medical specialist in Ovarian Cancer; and 4 members
10 appointed by the governor, 1 of whom shall be a person with Ovarian Cancer, 1 of whom is a
11 medical specialist in Ovarian Cancer, and 2 members of the public with demonstrated expertise

12 in issues relating to the work of the commission, is hereby established for the purpose of making
13 an investigation and study to:

14 (1) establish a mechanism in order to ascertain the prevalence of Ovarian Cancer in
15 Massachusetts, and the unmet needs

16 of persons with Ovarian Cancer and those of their families; collect time of diagnosis
17 statistics and likely risks for Ovarian

18 Cancer;

19 (2) study Ovarian Cancer prevention, screening, education and support programs for
20 Ovarian Cancer in the Commonwealth;

21 (3) provide recommendations for additional legislation, support programs and resources
22 necessary to meet the unmet

23 needs of persons with Ovarian Cancer and their families and how to effectuate an
24 early diagnosis and treatment for

25 Ovarian Cancer patients.

26 Vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be filled in the same manner
27 provided for the original appointments.

28 The commission shall organize within 120 days following the appointment of a majority
29 of its members and shall select a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the members.

30 The chairperson shall appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the commission.

31 The public members shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for
32 necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided by section 2A of
33 chapter 4 of the General Laws.

34 The commission shall be entitled to call to its assistance and avail itself of the services of
35 the employees of any state, county or municipal department, board, bureau, commission or
36 agency as it may require and as may be available to it for its purposes.

37 The executive office of health and human services shall provide staff support to the
38 commission.

39 The commission shall report to the general court the results of its investigation and study
40 and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its
41 recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the senate and the clerk of the
42 ouse of representatives on or before December 31, 2015.