

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 02587**

---

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and*

*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to increasing government efficiency through the use of electronic paperwork.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>
<i>George Ross</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>Sheila Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>
<i>Steven L. Levy</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>
<i>George N. Peterson, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>
<i>Elizabeth Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Viriato Manuel deMacedo</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 02587

By Messrs. Jones of North Reading and deMacedo, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2587) of Frost and others relative to increasing government efficiency through the use of electronic paperwork Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to increasing government efficiency through the use of electronic paperwork.

*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. Notwithstanding any general law to the contrary, the secretary of administration
- 2 and finance shall increase the efficiency of government through:
  - 3 (1) Reducing the use of paper through maximizing the available uses of information technology,
  - 4 including alternative information technologies to substitute for paper and increasing the use of
  - 5 electronic methods for the maintenance, submission, or disclosure of information, to improve
  - 6 data quality, agency efficiency and responsiveness to the public;
  - 7 (2) Eliminating costly and wasteful government publications through the expanded use of
  - 8 electronic methods for distribution of documentation throughout state government, where
  - 9 feasible and appropriate;

10 (3) Increasing and maximizing the availability of online transactions; including statutorily and  
11 regulatory, required corporate filings and frequently transacted governmental business with the  
12 citizens of the Commonwealth;

13 (4) Maximizing the use and availability electronic forms of payment and eliminating or  
14 minimizing any prohibitive fees associated with such transactions; and

15 (5) Eliminating duplicative permitting and paperwork requirements through implementing inter-  
16 agency file sharing technologies in order that electronically stored data can be viewed and  
17 routed, where appropriate, by multiple agencies.

18 SECTION 2. The secretary shall investigate any current statutory impediments for the reduction  
19 of the use of paper by state government and any impediments both statutory and technological,  
20 for more efficient electronic data storage and dissemination. The secretary shall submit his  
21 findings, along with any legislative recommendations to address those findings, to the house and  
22 senate clerks, and the joint committee on state administration and regulatory oversight no later  
23 than January 1, 2012.

24 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary, there shall be a special  
25 commission to investigate and make recommendations as to the feasibility of increasing  
26 electronic filings, records management and transactions within the judiciary. Said commission  
27 shall investigate the possibility of eliminating, or substantially reducing the utilization of paper  
28 filings in court proceedings.

29 Said commission shall consist of twenty-five members, one member shall be the chief justice of  
30 the supreme judicial court, or her designee, who shall also serve as chair; one member shall be  
31 the chief justice of the appeals court, or his designee; one member shall be the chief justice for

32 administration and management, or his designee; one member shall be the chief judge of the  
33 probate and family court, or his designee; one member shall be the chief judge of the land court,  
34 or his designee; one member shall be the attorney general of the commonwealth, or her designee;  
35 nineteen members shall be appointed by the chief justice of the supreme judicial court, provided  
36 that three members shall be district attorneys from diverse dispersed areas of the commonwealth,  
37 or their designees; provided further that three members shall be clerk of courts in the  
38 commonwealth, or their designees; provided further that two members shall be registers of deeds  
39 in the commonwealth, or their designees; provided further that two members shall be registers of  
40 probate in the commonwealth, or their designees; provided further that six members shall be  
41 selected from nominations provided by the Massachusetts Bar Association, provided that such  
42 persons shall represent diverse practice areas and practice sizes; provided further that four  
43 members shall be experts in areas of information technology, data storage, security and privacy  
44 protection.

45 Said commission shall submit its findings, along with any legislative recommendations necessary  
46 to address those findings, to the house and senate clerks, the joint committee on the judiciary,  
47 and the joint committee on state administration and regulatory oversight no later than February 1,  
48 2012.