

HOUSE No. 02859

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joyce A. Spiliotis

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 creating a special commission on the treatment of opiate addiction in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

.....
Joyce A. Spiliotis

.....
12th Essex

.....
Stephen L. DiNatale

.....
3rd Worcester

HOUSE No. 02859

By Ms. Spiliotis of Peabody, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2859) of DiNatale and Spiliotis for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of the care and treatment of citizens who are addicted to opiate substances Joint Committee on the Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act creating a special commission on the treatment of opiate addiction in the Commonwealth.

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

- 1 There is hereby established a special commission to examine the care and treatment of citizens
- 2 who are addicted to opiate substances in the Commonwealth. The Commission shall be
- 3 comprised of 10 members to be appointed by the Governor including, 1 member of the House of
- 4 Representative, 1 member of the Senate, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health
- 5 or his designee, the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health or his designee, a
- 6 representative of the Massachusetts Association for Behavioral Health Care, a representative of
- 7 the Massachusetts Association of Private Psychiatric hospitals, 1 representative of the
- 8 Massachusetts Psychiatric Society; 1 member of the Massachusetts Medical Society who is a
- 9 board certified emergency department physician; a representative of the Massachusetts

10 Organization for Addiction Recovery, and a representative of the Massachusetts Council of
11 Community Hospitals.

12 The Commission shall meet at least monthly and its review shall include but not be limited to the
13 following: the role methadone clinics play in the treatment of opiate addiction and any public
14 funding related thereto and recommended changes, if any; the current system for treating
15 overdoses and any gaps in care relating thereto along with recommended changes, if any; and the
16 current public and private payment system for opiate addiction treatment and recommended
17 changes, if any. The Commission shall report its findings together with any recommended
18 legislation to the House and Senate not later than December 31, 2011.