

HOUSE No. 293

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 relative to studying gateway cities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Bradford R. Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>

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By Mr. Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 293) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr. and others for legislation to create a task force to study the impact and benefits of the additional funding for gateway cities. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to studying gateway cities.

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. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall
2 be a special commission to evaluate and study the impact and supposed benefit of the additional
3 funding and legislative efforts granted to gateway communities. The task force shall consist of
4 the Senate and House Chairmen of the Joint Committee on Economic Development, or their
5 designee, a the Secretary of the Executive Office of Administration and Finance, or their
6 designee, the Secretary of the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development, or their
7 designee, the Director of the Department of Unemployment Assistance, or their designee, the
8 Undersecretary of Community Development, or their designee, the Senate and House Chairs of
9 the Gateway Cities Legislative Caucus, or their designee and two representatives from the
10 Massachusetts Municipal Association.

11 (b) The task force will be held responsible to evaluate the effectiveness of additional
12 funding given to gateway cities through tax exemptions, credits and grants since the creation of

13 the gateway city program. The group shall report to the legislature how communities currently
14 recognized as gateway cities are utilizing additional funds in a positive way for the community
15 and what current plans are put in place to eventually lower their unemployment rate and increase
16 their median income and education achievable rate. The task force will present a report with
17 recommendations on how to best recover from their current economic state and report it to Clerk
18 of the House and Senate by December 31, 2015.