

HOUSE No. 03039

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Byron Rushing

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 Resolve:

Resolve providing for the creation of a special commission relative to the seal and motto of the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas P. Kennedy</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 03039

By Mr. Rushing of Boston, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 3039) of Provost and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the seal and motto of the Commonwealth Joint Committee on State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

RESOLVE Resolve providing for the creation of a special commission relative to the seal and motto of the Commonwealth

Resolved,

1 That a special commission is hereby established (1) for the purpose of investigating the features
2 of the official seal and motto of the commonwealth including those which have been
3 controversial or misunderstood or are no longer meaningful to the citizens of the commonwealth
4 and (2) for the purpose of examining the seal and motto of the commonwealth to determine that
5 they accurately reflect and embody the historic and contemporary commitments of the
6 commonwealth to peace, justice, liberty and equality, and to spreading the opportunities and
7 advantages of education.

8 Said commission shall make recommendations regarding a revised or new design of the seal of
9 the commonwealth and a revised or new motto of the commonwealth, as described in chapter
10 two, sections two to six, inclusive, of the General Laws, if deemed appropriate, and shall propose
11 and design an educational program on the history and meaning of the seal and motto.

12 Said commission shall consist of two members of the senate, three members of the house of
13 representatives, the secretary of the commonwealth or his designee, the executive director of the

14 Massachusetts historical commission or his designee, the executive director of the council on arts
15 and humanities or his designee, the chair of the Massachusetts arts commission or his designee,
16 and five persons to be appointed by the governor, three of whom shall be of native American
17 descent of Massachusetts tribes to be selected from a list of six nominees to be submitted by the
18 executive director of the commission on Indian affairs.

19 Said commission shall report to the general court the results of its investigation and study, and its
20 recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its
21 recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives on
22 or before the first Wednesday of December, 2012. Said commission shall not receive funds
23 appropriated by the commonwealth, provided, however, that they may seek, accept and expend
24 any grants or gifts of money, professional services, consultant services, clerical and other
25 services and supplies from the federal government or any other private or public source in the
26 course of its investigation and study.