

HOUSE No. 3592

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jennifer M. Callahan

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 tick borne illnesses.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Jennifer M. Callahan	18th Worcester
Robert A. O'Leary	
Bradford R. Hill	4th Essex
Bruce E. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex
Cleon H. Turner	1st Barnstable
Daniel K. Webster	6th Plymouth
Lida E. Harkins	13th Norfolk
Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex
Christine E. Canavan	10th Plymouth
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Barbara A. L'Italien	18th Essex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

RESOLVE

Resolved,

1 That a special commission, to consist of: 3 members of the senate, 1 of whom shall be
2 appointed by the senate minority leader; 3 members of the house of representatives, 1 of whom
3 shall be appointed by the house minority leader; the commissioner of the department of public
4 health or his designee; the commissioner of education or his designee; the chancellor of the
5 University of Massachusetts Medical School or his designee; the Dean of the College of Natural
6 Resources and the Environment at the University of Massachusetts Amherst or his designee; the
7 director of the state laboratory institute or his designee; the state epidemiologist or his designee;
8 and 4 members to be appointed by the governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the cape
9 and islands Lyme disease task force, 1 of whom shall be a member of the Massachusetts chapter
10 of the international Lyme and associated diseases society, and 2 members who shall be
11 considered experts in the treatment or research of Lyme disease, is hereby established for the
12 purpose of making an investigation and study of Lyme disease including, but not limited to, a
13 review of the costs and benefits associated with: (1) establishing a Massachusetts center for
14 Lyme disease; (2) conducting a Lyme disease public health clinical screening study in high risk
15 regions; (3) developing education materials and training resources for clinical providers and
16 school health personnel for detecting signs and symptom of tick-borne illnesses in school-aged
17 populations; and (4) statewide surveillance and testing for tick-borne diseases in ticks. Said
18 commission shall report to the senate and house of representative the results of its investigation
19 and study, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect,
20 by filing the same with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, who shall forward
21 the same to the joint committee on public health and the house and senate committees on ways
22 and means by February 1, 2010.

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