

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 631**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***John C. Velis and Hannah Kane***

*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 establishing a commission to study the financial abuse of elders.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>John C. Velis</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>
<i>Daniel Cahill</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>
<i>Daniel R. Carey</i>	<i>2nd Hampshire</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i>	<i>8th Plymouth</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>First Essex</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>

<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Donald F. Humason, Jr.</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>
<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Liz Miranda</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>
<i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>
<i>Norman J. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>Alyson M. Sullivan</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 631**

By Representatives Velis of Westfield and Kane of Shrewsbury, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 631) of John C. Velis and others for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to study the financial abuse of elders. Elder Affairs.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**

An Act establishing a commission to study the financial abuse of elders.

*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) The Massachusetts General Court shall initiate a commission to study  
2 and draft policies to combat the financial abuse of elders in the Commonwealth.

3 (1) Said Commission shall have three members of the Massachusetts House of  
4 Representatives, two appointed by the Speaker of the House and one appointed by the Minority  
5 Leader;

6 (2) Said Commission shall have three members of the Massachusetts Senate, two  
7 appointed by the President of the Senate and one appointed by the Minority Leader;

8 (3) Said commission shall have two attorneys, admitted to the Massachusetts Bar,  
9 who specialize in elder and estate law;

10           (4)    Said Commission shall have a representative from an advocacy group, operating  
11 in Massachusetts, which has a history of advocating for the interests of the elder population in  
12 the Commonwealth;

13           (5)    Said Commission shall have two representatives who are employed by Councils  
14 on Aging in the Commonwealth or any organization responsible for administering protective  
15 services to elders in the Commonwealth; and

16           (6)    Said Commission shall have a representative from an association or advocacy  
17 group, operating in Massachusetts, which has a history of advocating on behalf of the real estate  
18 industry.

19           (7)    Said Commission shall have a representative from an association or advocacy  
20 group, operating in Massachusetts, which has a background in the financial services industry

21           (b)    The commission will specifically study

22           (1)    The economic impact and mechanisms of financial abuse on those over age 60 in  
23 the Commonwealth;

24           (2)    The lending and refinancing practices of companies who target customers above  
25 the age of 60;

26           (3)    Exploitative transfers of real estate or other valuable property from dependent  
27 elders to fiduciaries for significantly less than market value;

28           (4)    Fraudulent or deceptive schemes that target elderly persons in the Commonwealth  
29 through telemarketing, the internet, or other means; and

30           (5)     Any other form of elder financial abuse.

31           (c)     Said commission shall file a report that includes policy recommendations prevent  
32 or better protect elders from financial abuse. They shall file their report with the clerk of either  
33 chamber, as well as the Chairmen of the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs and the Joint  
34 Committee on Financial Services, no later than December 31st, 2019.