

SENATE No. 01143

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard T. Moore

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 robotic surgery in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Richard T. Moore
Mr. Michael DeVito

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Worcester and Norfolk
9 Queen Of Roses Lane
 Uxbridge, MA 01569

SENATE No. 01143

By Mr. Moore, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1143) of Moore for legislation relative to robotic surgery in the Commonwealth [Joint Committee on Public Health].

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act relative to robotic surgery in the Commonwealth.

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) There shall be a special commission on robotic surgery which shall
2 make an investigation and study relative to the use of robotic surgery in the commonwealth. The
3 commission shall consist of 3 senators, 1 of whom shall be the senate chair of the joint
4 committee on public health, 1 of whom shall be a member of the majority party who shall be
5 appointed by the president of the senate and 1 of whom shall be a member of the minority party
6 who shall be appointed by the minority leader; provided however, that 1 member of the senate
7 shall be designated as co-chair of the commission; 3 members of the house of representatives, 1
8 of whom shall be the house chair of the joint committee on public health, 1 of whom shall be a
9 member of the majority party who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house, and 1 of whom
10 shall be a member of the minority party who shall be appointed by the minority leader; provided,
11 however, that 1 member of the house shall be designated as co-chair of the commission; the
12 commissioner of the department of public health, or his designee; a representative appointed by

13 the Massachusetts Medical Society; a representative appointed by the American Urological
14 Society; a representative of the Society of Gynecological Surgeons; a representative appointed
15 by the Society of Thoracic Surgeons; a representative appointed by the American Cancer
16 Society; a representative appointed by the Massachusetts Hospital Association; and 3 persons to
17 be appointed by the governor who have undergone robotic surgery.

18 (b) The commission shall investigate and review the use of robotic surgery in the
19 commonwealth and (1) work to develop a training protocol for each application of robotic
20 surgery currently being performed in the commonwealth, (2) develop an application process for
21 hospitals to propose the certification of any new applications of robotic surgery, and (3) establish
22 guidelines for surgeon training and experience to perform such an operation. The department of
23 public health shall provide staff and other resources as the commission considers appropriate.
24 The special commission shall make its final report and recommendations, if any, together with
25 drafts of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect, by filing the same
26 with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives not later than October 31, 2012. The
27 special commission may make such interim reports as it considers appropriate.