

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1220**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Joanne M. Comerford***

*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 advancing health equity.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>1/24/2019</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/23/2019</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>	<i>2/22/2019</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>

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By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1220) of Joanne M. Comerford, Julian Cyr, Mindy Domb, James B. Eldridge and other members of the General Court for legislation to advance health equity. Public Health.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act advancing health equity.

*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 16AA of chapter 6A of the General Laws, as inserted by section 7 of chapter 154  
2 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended by adding after subsection (f) the following subsection:-

3           (g) The secretary of health and human services shall annually, on the day assigned for  
4 submission of the budget by the governor to the general court pursuant to section 7H of chapter  
5 29, designate major initiatives of the commonwealth affecting the health and health care of  
6 residents of the commonwealth. The initiatives may include any activity of the commonwealth  
7 including, but not limited to, activities of the executive office of health and human services, the  
8 executive office of housing and economic development, the executive office of public safety and  
9 security, the executive office of energy and environmental affairs, the Massachusetts Department  
10 of Transportation, the executive office of labor and workforce development and the executive  
11 office of education.

12           For each major initiative, the office shall prepare a health equity impact statement  
13 evaluating the likely positive or negative impact of each initiative on promoting health equity  
14 and eliminating or reducing racial and ethnic health disparities. The statements shall, to the  
15 extent possible, include quantifiable impacts and evaluation benchmarks. The statements shall be  
16 posted on the official internet site of the executive office of health and human services and  
17 submitted to the clerks of the house of representatives and senate, members of the health  
18 disparities council, the joint committees on public health and health care financing and the house  
19 and senate committees on ways and means.