

SENATE No. 1255

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patrick M. O'Connor

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 special commission to find the best practices to promote education, awareness, and prevention of Lyme disease.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/25/2017</i>
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>	<i>1/25/2017</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2017</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/22/2017</i>

SENATE No. 1255

By Mr. O'Connor, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1255) of Patrick M. O'Connor, David F. DeCoste, Thomas M. McGee, Daniel M. Donahue and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a special commission to find the best practices to promote education, awareness, and prevention of Lyme disease. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act establishing a special commission to find the best practices to promote education, awareness, and prevention of Lyme disease.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Notwithstanding any special or general law there shall be a special commission to study
2 the feasibility and best practices for a statewide education and awareness program to prevent the
3 contraction of Lyme disease and tick borne illnesses.

4 The special commission shall consist of: the secretary of health and human services, or
5 their designee; the commissioner of the department of public health, or their designee; a
6 representative from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; two members of the House
7 of Representatives, one of whom to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
8 Representatives, and the other to be appointed by the minority leader; two members of the
9 Senate, one of whom to be appointed by the President of the Senate, and the other to be
10 appointed by the minority leader; provided, however, that the first meeting of the commission
11 shall take place not later than December 1, 2017.

12 The special commission shall submit its recommendations, together with drafts of any
13 legislation, to the clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the chairs of the joint
14 committee on mental health and substance abuse not later than July 1, 2018.