

SENATE No. 2020

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sonia Chang-Diaz

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 relative to the purpose, utility, nature, and timeliness of commissions in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Sonia Chang-Diaz</i>	<i>Second Suffolk</i>	
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>	<i>4/1/2021</i>

SENATE No. 2020

By Ms. Chang-Diaz, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 2020) of Sonia Chang-Diaz, Tami L. Gouveia and Michelle M. DuBois for legislation relative to the purpose, utility, nature, and timeliness of commissions in the Commonwealth. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to the purpose, utility, nature, and timeliness of commissions 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. The Office of the Auditor shall review and report on the use of
2 commissions by the Commonwealth in policy-making and oversight. The report shall include,
3 but not be limited to: (i) a list of all permanent and special commissions created by the
4 Commonwealth currently in operation as well as any special commission whose work concluded
5 no more than ten years prior to the passage of this act; (ii) an evaluation of whether the
6 compositions of such commissions were reflective of the populations directly experiencing the
7 problems the commissions sought to address; (iii) an estimate of the total taxpayer dollars spent
8 on each of the commissions on the list in item (i), and in the aggregate, via the hours dedicated
9 by government employees to the work of said commissions; (iv) an assessment of whether the
10 commissions yielded concrete recommendations to the legislative, executive, or judicial
11 branches and to what extent, if any, the relevant government entities acted on such

12 recommendations; and (v) recommendations about how to better ensure that commissions'
13 recommendations are considered and adopted or rejected in a timely manner.

14 SECTION 2. Not later than one year after passage of this act, the Office of the Auditor
15 shall submit its report and recommendations to the clerks of the senate and house of
16 representatives and post the report on a public-facing website.