

SENATE No. 210

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Eric P. Lesser

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 the Massachusetts future of work commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Eric P. Lesser</i>	<i>First Hampden and Hampshire</i>	
<i>Paul R. Feeney</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>

SENATE No. 210

By Mr. Lesser, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 210) of Eric P. Lesser, Paul R. Feeney, Jason M. Lewis, Michael O. Moore and others for legislation to establish the Massachusetts future of work commission. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing the Massachusetts future of work commission.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be a
2 special commission called the Massachusetts Future of Work Commission established to conduct
3 a comprehensive study relative to the impact automation, artificial intelligence, global trade,
4 access to new forms of data, and the internet of things are having on the commonwealth’s
5 workforce, businesses, and economy, with the main objective of said commission being to ensure
6 sustainable jobs, fair benefits and workplace safety standards for all workers in all industries,
7 including, but not limited to, access to adequate and affordable health insurance, financial
8 security in retirement, unemployment insurance, and disability insurance. The commission shall
9 study and evaluate all aspects of the future of work in the commonwealth including, but not
10 limited to (i) the current and future trends and drivers of transformation of industries and
11 employment in the commonwealth and how they will impact workers; (ii) the identification of
12 policies and practices to assist workers, businesses, and communities to thrive and maintain a

13 robust economy while responding to rapid transformation of technology, workplace practices,
14 environmental and security concerns, and global interdependence; (iii) the impact of industry
15 transformation on worker access to affordable and robust healthcare, financial security in
16 retirement, and adequate unemployment insurance, disability and other benefits; (iv) best
17 practices on how to maintain cohesive and beneficial partnerships between workers and
18 employers during growth and transformation in industries; and (v) and any other factors the
19 commission deems relevant.

20 The commission, in conjunction with the executive office of labor and workforce
21 development, shall (i) develop and maintain an inventory of the current and future trends and
22 factors that will drive transformation of industries and work in the commonwealth over the next
23 twenty-five years; (ii) research best practices from state, national, and international sources, and
24 develop case studies and examples for the future of work; (iii) gather data and input from
25 employers and workers from the major industrial sectors in every region of the commonwealth;
26 (iv) work with organizations that engage in workforce training to identify both best practices and
27 any obstacles that may exist to adequate workforce training during future industry
28 transformation; and (v) recommend any other necessary steps the commission should take to
29 carry out its responsibilities relative to the future of work in the commonwealth.

30 The commission shall consist of 17 members: 1 person who shall be appointed by the
31 governor who shall have expertise in the future of work issues; 1 person who shall be appointed
32 by the attorney general who shall have expertise in fair labor and workers' rights; 1 of whom
33 shall be the secretary of the executive office of labor and workforce development; 2 persons who
34 shall be appointed by the president of the senate, 1 of whom shall serve as co-chair; 1 person
35 who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate; 2 persons who shall be appointed by

36 the speaker of the house of representatives, 1 of whom shall serve as chair; 1 person who shall be
37 appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives; 1 person who shall have
38 expertise in future of work issues; 1 person who shall have experience in workforce training and
39 education; 3 members of the labor community with experience in future of work issues to be
40 appointed by the co-chairs; and 3 members of the business community with experience in future
41 of work issues to be appointed by the co-chairs. The task force may meet as appropriate, but not
42 less than four times in different geographic regions of the commonwealth, and shall accept input
43 from the public via at least two public hearings, as well as solicit expert testimony from
44 individuals identified by the commission.

45 The commission shall, following the completion of the required meetings and hearings,
46 file a report of its analysis, recommendations and any legislation necessary to advance said
47 recommendations to the clerks of the house of representatives and senate, as well as to the joint
48 committee on economic development and emerging technologies and the joint committee on
49 labor and workforce development. The report shall include, but not be limited to, the following
50 legislative and policy recommendations: (i) how to ensure workers in the future secure access to
51 affordable and robust healthcare, financial security in retirement, and adequate unemployment
52 insurance, disability and other benefits (i) how to attain credentials that are portable, transferable,
53 and cost and time efficient; (ii) how to support lifelong learning and talent development for
54 workers at all ages; (iii) how to help workers maintain relevant skills or learn new skills for the
55 careers and workplaces of the future; (iv) how to prepare young people to succeed in the careers
56 and workplaces of the future; (v) how to ensure employers and workforce training entities are
57 up-to-date on training needs for workers in current and future industries and careers; (vi) how to
58 enable workers, businesses, and workforce training entities to simultaneously learn and

59 incorporate new technologies into workforce training; and (vii) any other recommendations the
60 commission deems necessary.

61 The commission shall convene its first meeting not later than September 1, 2019. The
62 commission shall submit its final report and its recommendations, including recommendations
63 for legislation, not later than August 31, 2020.