

HOUSE No. 1965

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul Brodeur

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:

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to elder protective services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Paul Brodeur</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Richard Bastien</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Katherine M. Clark</i>	<i>Middlesex and Essex</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>
<i>Michael J. Finn</i>	<i>6th Hampden</i>
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Mark J. Cusack</i>	<i>5th Norfolk</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 1965

By Mr. Brodeur of Melrose, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 1965) of Paul Brodeur and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) to make an investigation and study of elder protective services. Elder Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to elder protective services.

1 Resolved, RESOLVED, That a special commission is hereby established to make an
2 investigation and study of elder protective services and making recommendations to enhance
3 said services where appropriate and necessary. The special commission shall consist of the
4 House chair of the committee on elder affairs or her designee; the Senate chair of the committee
5 on elder affairs or her designee; the secretary of elder affairs or her designee; the commissioner
6 of public health or his designee; the attorney general or her designee; a district attorney as
7 designated by the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association; the president of the
8 Massachusetts chiefs of police association or his designee; the executive director of the
9 Massachusetts Association of Home Care Programs or his designee; the head of the elderly unit
10 of Greater Boston Legal Services, Inc. or her designee; the state director of AARP Massachusetts
11 or her designee; the executive director of the Massachusetts Association of Councils on Aging
12 Inc. and Senior Center directors; the executive director of Jane Doe, Inc. or her designee; the
13 executive director of the Massachusetts office of victim assistance or her designee and 4
14 members appointed by the governor, 1 of whom shall be a member of the Massachusetts bar who
15 practices in the area of elder law, 1 of whom shall be an expert in financial services, 1 of whom
16 shall be a representative of a visiting nurse association, 1 of whom shall be an expert in geriatric
17 mental health.

18 The commission created shall examine strategies to increase public awareness of elder
19 abuse and mechanisms for reporting said abuse. The commission shall assess the funding and
20 programming needed to enhance elder protective services to the growing elder population and
21 examine best practices for the prevention and detection of elder abuse. The commission shall
22 also examine methods for addressing the high cost of financial exploitation investigations and
23 expanding the availability of affordable legal services and financial advisory services for elders.
24 The commission shall also examine the development of elder abuse multidisciplinary teams to
25 provide consultation on protective services cases and perform critical incident case reviews.

26 The commission, in formulating its recommendations, shall take account of the best
27 policies and practices in other states and jurisdictions, particularly, but not limited to those
28 relating to elder abuse prevention strategies. The commission shall be empowered to hold
29 regular public meetings, fact-finding hearings and other public forums as it considers necessary.

30 The commission shall file its recommendations, together with recommendations for
31 legislation, if any, with the house and senate clerks who shall forward the same to the general
32 court no later than June 30, 2012.