

HOUSE No. 176

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul J. Donato

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 board of registration in physical therapy.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 176

By Mr. Donato of Medford, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 176) of Paul J. Donato and Carolyn C. Dykema relative to establishing a board of registration in physical therapy. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act establishing a board of registration in physical therapy.

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. Section 11A of Chapter 13 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 striking out the word “eleven” and replacing it with the word “eight”.

3 SECTION 2. Section 11A of Chapter 13 of the General Laws is hereby amended by
4 striking out the words:-

5 “two of such members shall be physical therapists licensed in accordance with the
6 provisions of said section twenty-three B; one such member shall be a physical therapist assistant
7 licensed in accordance with the provisions of said section twenty-three B; except that such
8 members constituting the first board shall be persons who are eligible for licensing as
9 practitioners of said allied health profession.”

10 SECTION 3. Chapter 13 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following
11 section:-

12 Section 109. Board of registration of physical therapy; membership; appointment; term

13 (a) There shall be within the division of professional licensure a board of registration in
14 physical therapy. The board shall consist of nine (9) members who shall be appointed by the
15 governor for terms of three (3) years. The members appointed shall be residents of the
16 commonwealth, four (4) of whom shall be physical therapists licensed in accordance with the
17 provisions of section 23B of chapter 112 and who shall have been actively engaged in the
18 practice of physical therapy for at least seven years; two (2) of whom shall be physical therapists
19 licensed in accordance with the provisions of said section 23B who are educators of physical
20 therapy and are on the faculty of a college or university situated in the Commonwealth; two (2)
21 of whom shall be physical therapist assistants licensed in accordance with the provisions of said
22 section 23B; and one (1) of whom shall be a consumer.

23 Of the initial members appointed to the board, serving terms of three (3) years will be
24 two (2) physical therapists, one (1) physical therapist assistant and one (1) physical therapy
25 educator. Those serving terms of two (2) years will be one (1) physical therapist, one (1) physical
26 therapist assistant, one (1) physical therapy educator and the consumer member. Serving a term
27 of one (1) year will be one (1) physical therapist. Terms of reappointment shall be for a term of
28 three (3) years. Each member of the board shall hold office until his successor has been
29 appointed. A vacancy in the membership of the board shall be filled for the unexpired term in the
30 manner provided for the original appointment.

31 Members shall be appointed for a term of three years. No member shall be appointed to
32 more than two consecutive full terms; provided, however, that a member appointed for less than
33 a full term may serve two full terms in addition to such part of a full term and a former member

34 shall again be eligible for appointment after a lapse of one or more years. Any member of the
35 board may be removed by the governor for neglect of duty, misconduct or malfeasance or
36 misfeasance in office after being given a written statement of the charges against him and
37 sufficient opportunity to be heard thereon.

38 Said board shall elect its chairperson annually and shall meet twice annually at the call of
39 such chairperson or upon the request of the majority of the board. A quorum shall consist of at
40 least five members present. Board members shall serve without compensation but shall be
41 reimbursed for actual and reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. The
42 board shall meet at least four times annually