HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2007 FILED ON: 1/15/2015

HOUSE . . . . . No. 731

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Keiko M. Orrall

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 to Ensure Proper Stewardship of Honeybees by the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Keiko M. Orrall	*12th Bristol*
Mary S. Keefe	*15th Worcester*
Bradford R. Hill	*4th Essex*
Bruce E. Tarr	*First Essex and Middlesex*
Sarah K. Peake	*4th Barnstable*
Brian M. Ashe	*2nd Hampden*
F. Jay Barrows	*1st Bristol*
Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.	*5th Worcester*
William N. Brownsberger	*Second Suffolk and Middlesex*
Angelo L. D'Emilia	*8th Plymouth*
Shawn Dooley	*9th Norfolk*
Kimberly N. Ferguson	*1st Worcester*
Colleen M. Garry	*36th Middlesex*
Susan Williams Gifford	*2nd Plymouth*
Paul K. Frost	*7th Worcester*
Steven S. Howitt	*4th Bristol*
Donald F. Humason, Jr.	*Second Hampden and Hampshire*
James M. Kelcourse	*1st Essex*

Mathew Muratore	*1st Plymouth*
Susannah M. Whipps Lee	*2nd Franklin*
Kate Hogan	*3rd Middlesex*
David T. Vieira	*3rd Barnstable*
Richard J. Ross	*Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex*
Michael O. Moore	*Second Worcester*
Stephen Kulik	*1st Franklin*
Paul A. Schmid, III	*8th Bristol*
Jennifer E. Benson	*37th Middlesex*
Jeffrey N. Roy	*10th Norfolk*
Timothy R. Madden	*Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket*
Kevin J. Kuros	*8th Worcester*
Carolyn C. Dykema	*8th Middlesex*
Paul McMurtry	*11th Norfolk*
Tackey Chan	*2nd Norfolk*
Benjamin Swan	*11th Hampden*
Theodore C. Speliotis	*13th Essex*
James Arciero	*2nd Middlesex*
Chris Walsh	*6th Middlesex*
Leonard Mirra	*2nd Essex*
Jonathan D. Zlotnik	*2nd Worcester*
Thomas J. Calter	*12th Plymouth*
Denise C. Garlick	*13th Norfolk*
Jonathan Hecht	*29th Middlesex*

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By Mrs. Orrall of Lakeville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 731) of Keiko M. Orrall and others for legislation to establish an advisory committee on the protection of honeybees in the Commonwealth. Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to Ensure Proper Stewardship of Honeybees by 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:

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary the commissioner of the department of agricultural resources shall establish an advisory committee charged with evaluating honeybee protection efforts established under MGL Chapter 128 Sections 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 36a and 36B. The committee shall evaluate the effectiveness of said law and subsequent regulations and policies in protecting the health of honeybee populations in the Commonwealth and shall recommendations for change to the legislature and the department.

The committee shall be comprised of representatives of 2 county beekeeper associations, a cranberry grower, an apple grower and a vegetable grower to be appointed by the commissioner, as well as a representative of the MA Farm Bureau Federation, the MA Beekeepers Association as appointed by the board of directors of those organizations, and a representative of the UMASS Extension. The chair shall be elected by the members of the

12 committee. No member of the committee shall be, or have been, employed by the department of
13 agricultural resources.

14 Within 18 months of passage of this bill, the committee shall present a report on its
15 findings and recommendations. It shall meet at least 4 times during that period at geographically
16 separate locations throughout the commonwealth. All meetings shall be open to the public and
17 subject to appropriate open meeting requirements.

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