

HOUSE No. 3827

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

Resolve An Act relative to the study on methods to reduce incidents of suicide..

1 **Resolved**, There is hereby established a special commission to investigate and study the
2 problem of suicide across the lifespan, to consider innovative and coordinated measures to
3 prevent and reduce the incidence of suicide through prevention and public health policy
4 initiatives and strategies, and to identify strategies to support and implement a state plan to
5 reduce the incidence of suicide and self harm. The commission shall consist of 17 members,
6 including: (i) the commissioner of public health who shall chair the commission, the
7 commissioner of elder affairs, the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, the
8 commissioner of mental health, the commissioner of public safety, the commissioner of youth
9 services, the attorney general, a member of the senate appointed by the senate president, the
10 minority leader of the senate, 2 members of the house of representatives appointed by the
11 speaker, the minority leader of the house of representatives, or their designees; and (ii) the
12 following persons appointed by the commissioner of public health: a suicide prevention
13 professional, a member of the commission on gay and lesbian youth, a suicide prevention
14 advocate, a suicide survivor, and a representative from the leadership of the Massachusetts
15 Coalition for Suicide Prevention. The commission shall be covered under the auspices of the
16 Massachusetts Coalition for Suicide Prevention and the injury prevention and control program of

17 the department of public health. The commission shall report to the general court the results of
18 its investigation and study, together with recommendations and drafts of legislation necessary to
19 carry out the recommendations, by filing the same with the clerks of the house of representatives
20 and the senate within 1 year of convening.