

SENATE No. 555

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

An Act to Create a Commission to Determine the Capital Needs of Community Hospitals.

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. There shall be a special commission to identify the capital needs of the
2 community hospital sector with regard to use of technology and adequacy of facilities, the ability
3 of the sector to meet the health care needs of the general population in the next decade, and
4 potential sources of capital to meet those needs. Said Commission shall also evaluate the role of
5 public programs, payments and regulations in supporting capital accumulation and make
6 recommendations to advance the ability of the community hospital sector to meet the expected
7 demand. Said Commission shall be comprised of the Secretary of Health and Human Services,
8 the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health, the Secretary of Administration and
9 Finance, the Commissioner of the Department of Medical Assistance, a representative of the
10 Massachusetts Council of Community Hospitals, a representative of the Massachusetts Hospital
11 Association, a representative of the Associated Industries of Massachusetts, a representative of
12 the Massachusetts Business Roundtable, the chief executive officer of the Massachusetts Health
13 and Educational Facilities Authority, the chief executive officer of Mass Development, the
14 House and Senate Chairs of Ways and Means, the House and Senate Chairs of the Joint

15 Committee on Health Care Financing, and a member of the minority party in both the House and
16 Senate, appointed by the House and Senate Minority Leaders, a chief elected local official with a
17 community hospital located in said community to be appointed by the Governor, an individual
18 knowledgeable about demographic trends and hospital utilization to be appointed by the
19 Governor and an individual knowledgeable about hospital finance and construction to be
20 appointed by the Governor.

21 SECTION 2. Said Commission shall hold hearings and issue a report to the General
22 Court no later than December 31, 2010.