

SENATE No. 676

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

Resolve A Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to the recruitment and retention of college graduates and skilled workers for the Commonwealth's workforce..

1 Resolved, There shall be a special commission for the purpose of devising a statewide
2 strategy to recruit and retain college graduates and individuals who have completed skilled
3 apprentice training programs for the Massachusetts workforce. The commission shall consist of
4 3 members of the senate to be appointed by the senate president, 1 of whom shall be a member of
5 the minority party, and 1 of whom shall serve as co-chair, 3 members of the house of
6 representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the house, 1 of whom shall be a member of the
7 minority party, and 1 of whom shall serve as co-chair, the commissioner of the board of higher
8 education or his designee, the secretary of workforce development or her designee, the director
9 of apprentice training or his designee, the undersecretary of housing and community
10 development or her designee, the president of the university of Massachusetts or his designee, 3
11 representatives of the 9 state colleges, to be appointed by the governor, 3 representatives from
12 the 15 community colleges, to be appointed by the governor, the president of the association of
13 independent colleges and universities in Massachusetts or his designee, the president of
14 associated industries of Massachusetts or his designee, and the president of the Massachusetts

15 AFL/CIO or his designee. The 6 gubernatorial appointees shall represent public institutions of
16 higher education from all regions of the Commonwealth.

17 The commission's study shall include analysis of why Massachusetts college graduates
18 and skilled workers leave the Commonwealth after graduation and shall develop a
19 comprehensive recruitment and retention statewide plan to secure a diverse and well-trained
20 workforce across the Commonwealth. Said plan may involve recommendations or programs to
21 assist with the repayment of student loans, first time home buying, or other initiatives that the
22 commission finds to be of importance to young graduates and workers as they consider where to
23 settle after completing their academic or professional training. The commission shall consider
24 the costs of self sufficiency, housing and quality of life across Massachusetts as well as the types
25 of jobs available in all regions of the Commonwealth. The commission shall make
26 recommendations about how the state's higher education, apprenticeship training and workforce
27 development agencies should collaborate in order to recruit and retain young workers in
28 Massachusetts.

29 The commission shall report to the general court the results of its investigation and study,
30 and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry such
31 recommendations into effect by filing them with the clerk of the senate and the clerk of the house
32 of representatives on or before June 30, 2010. The commission may issue preliminary or interim
33 reports to the general court before that date.