

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2859**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Joyce A. Spiliotis*

*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 creating a special commission on the treatment of opiate addiction in the Commonwealth..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Joyce A. Spiliotis</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>	<i>1/21/2011</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2011</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2859**

By Ms. Spiliotis of Peabody, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2859) of Joyce A. Spiliotis and Stephen L. DiNatale for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of the care and treatment of citizens who are addicted to opiate substances. The Judiciary.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**

An Act creating a special commission on the treatment of opiate addiction in 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:*

1           There is hereby established a special commission to examine the care and treatment of  
2 citizens who are addicted to opiate substances in the Commonwealth. The Commission shall be  
3 comprised of 10 members to be appointed by the Governor including, 1 member of the House of  
4 Representative, 1 member of the Senate, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health  
5 or his designee, the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health or his designee, a  
6 representative of the Massachusetts Association for Behavioral Health Care, a representative of  
7 the Massachusetts Association of Private Psychiatric hospitals, 1 representative of the  
8 Massachusetts Psychiatric Society; 1 member of the Massachusetts Medical Society who is a  
9 board certified emergency department physician; a representative of the Massachusetts  
10 Organization for Addiction Recovery, and a representative of the Massachusetts Council of  
11 Community Hospitals.

12           The Commission shall meet at least monthly and its review shall include but not be  
13 limited to the following: the role methadone clinics play in the treatment of opiate addiction and  
14 any public funding related thereto and recommended changes, if any; the current system for  
15 treating overdoses and any gaps in care relating thereto along with recommended changes, if  
16 any; and the current public and private payment system for opiate addiction treatment and  
17 recommended changes, if any. The Commission shall report its findings together with any  
18 recommended legislation to the House and Senate not later than December 31, 2011.