

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2900**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Peter J. Koutoujian***

*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 resolve:

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

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Peter J. Koutoujian</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/21/2011</i>

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By Mr. Koutoujian of Waltham, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 2900) of Peter J. Koutoujian investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to public health policy initiatives and strategies to reduce incidents of suicide in the Commonwealth. Public Health.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3827 OF 2009-2010.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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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.