

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1143**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Richard T. Moore***

*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 relative to robotic surgery in the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Richard T. Moore*

*Mr. Michael DeVito*

*9 Queen Of Roses Lane Uxbridge, MA  
01569*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1143**

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By Mr. Moore, petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1143) of Moore for legislation relative to robotic surgery in the Commonwealth [Joint Committee on Public Health].

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act relative to robotic surgery 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                   SECTION 1. (a) There shall be a special commission on robotic surgery  
2    which shall make an investigation and study relative to the use of robotic surgery in the  
3    commonwealth. The commission shall consist of 3 senators, 1 of whom shall be the senate chair  
4    of the joint committee on public health, 1 of whom shall be a member of the majority party who  
5    shall be appointed by the president of the senate and 1 of whom shall be a member of the  
6    minority party who shall be appointed by the minority leader; provided however, that 1 member  
7    of the senate shall be designated as co-chair of the commission; 3 members of the house of  
8    representatives, 1 of whom shall be the house chair of the joint committee on public health, 1 of  
9    whom shall be a member of the majority party who shall be appointed by the speaker of the  
10   house, and 1 of whom shall be a member of the minority party who shall be appointed by the  
11   minority leader; provided, however, that 1 member of the house shall be designated as co-chair  
12   of the commission; the commissioner of the department of public health, or his designee; a  
13   representative appointed by the Massachusetts Medical Society; a representative appointed by  
14   the American Urological Society; a representative of the Society of Gynecological Surgeons; a

15 representative appointed by the Society of Thoracic Surgeons; a representative appointed by the  
16 American Cancer Society; a representative appointed by the Massachusetts Hospital Association;  
17 and 3 persons to be appointed by the governor who have undergone robotic surgery.

18 (b) The commission shall investigate and review the use of robotic surgery in  
19 the commonwealth and (1) work to develop a training protocol for each application of robotic  
20 surgery currently being performed in the commonwealth, (2) develop an application process for  
21 hospitals to propose the certification of any new applications of robotic surgery, and (3) establish  
22 guidelines for surgeon training and experience to perform such an operation. The department of  
23 public health shall provide staff and other resources as the commission considers appropriate.  
24 The special commission shall make its final report and recommendations, if any, together with  
25 drafts of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect, by filing the same  
26 with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives not later than October 31, 2012. The  
27 special commission may make such interim reports as it considers appropriate.