

**SENATE . . . . . No. 54**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Thomas M. McGee*

*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 to assess the impact of the public welfare system on the health and well-being of children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 54**

---

---

By Mr. McGee, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 54) of Thomas M. McGee and Kay Khan for legislation to assess the impact of the public welfare system on the health and well-being of children. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

---

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 2304 OF 2009-2010.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act to assess the impact of the public welfare system on the health and well-being of children.

*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. The Department of Public Health, in conjunction with other child and  
2 family-serving agencies, shall conduct an annual child assessment as part of a child surveillance  
3 study on the impact of the public welfare system on the health and well-being of the children and  
4 youth (birth through age 18) of the Commonwealth. Said child health assessment shall include  
5 but not be limited to: the measure and assessment of nutritional status (through height and weight  
6 measurements); birth outcomes status (especially birthweights); poverty status; school readiness  
7 status and safety status (including injury prevalence rates and hospitalization rates) of children  
8 and youth in the Commonwealth. Said annual child health assessment statement shall be  
9 submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means, the Joint Committee on

- 10 Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing,
- 11 and the Joint Committee on Education by April 1 of each year.