

HOUSE No. 2091

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Theodore C. Speliotis

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 providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to safeguarding medical records.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Theodore C. Speliotis

13th Essex

HOUSE No. 2091

By Mr. Speliotis of Danvers, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 2091) of Theodore C. Speliotis for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to safeguarding medical records. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to safeguarding medical records.

1 **Resolved**, That a special commission to consist of: 2 members of the senate, 1 of whom
2 shall be appointed by the Senate President, 1 by the Senate Minority Leader, 2 members from the
3 House of Representatives, 1 of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House, 1 by the
4 House Minority Leader, the Attorney General or her designee, and 5 persons to be appointed by
5 the Governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Medical Society, 1 of
6 whom shall be a representative of Massachusetts Health and Human Services, 1 of whom shall
7 be a representative of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers, Inc., 1 of whom
8 shall be a member of the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans, Inc., 1 of whom shall be a
9 representative of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts, Inc.; is hereby established for the
10 purpose of making an investigation and study relative to determining the pervasiveness of
11 overseas medical transcription services charged with transcribing medical reports, and gauging
12 whether there exists any privacy or safety concerns to residents of the Commonwealth relative to
13 overseas transcriptions. The commission shall determine the ability of health care industry
14 businesses such as licensed clinics, health facilities, home health agencies, hospices, and health
15 care service plan providers to implement physical, technical, administrative and procedural
16 safeguards for preventing unauthorized and unlawful access to patient data and for monitoring
17 employee access to such data. The commission’s investigation shall include, but not be limited
18 to: determining, whether the above entities have the necessary resources to implement such
19 aforementioned privacy and safety safeguards, specifically in regards to said overseas
20 transcriptions.

21 Said commission shall report to the general court the results of its investigation and
22 study, and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its
23 recommendations into effect by filing the same with the clerks of the house of representatives

24 and senate who shall forward the same to the joint committee as determined by the house and
25 senate on or before January 31, 2015.