

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1069**

---

**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:

*Richard T. Moore*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Worcester and Norfolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1069**

---

By Mr. Richard T. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1069) of Richard T. Moore for legislation relative to robotic surgery in the Commonwealth. Public Health.

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1143 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
—————

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 which shall  
2 make an investigation and study relative to the use of robotic surgery in the commonwealth. The  
3 commission shall consist of 3 senators, 1 of whom shall be the senate chair of the joint  
4 committee on public health, 1 of whom shall be a member of the majority party who shall be  
5 appointed by the president of the senate and 1 of whom shall be a member of the minority party  
6 who shall be appointed by the minority leader; provided however, that 1 member of the senate  
7 shall be designated as co-chair of the commission; 3 members of the house of representatives, 1  
8 of whom shall be the house chair of the joint committee on public health, 1 of whom shall be a  
9 member of the majority party who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house, and 1 of whom  
10 shall be a member of the minority party who shall be appointed by the minority leader; provided,  
11 however, that 1 member of the house shall be designated as co-chair of the commission; the  
12 commissioner of the department of public health, or his designee; a representative appointed by  
13 the Massachusetts Medical Society; a representative appointed by the American Urological  
14 Society; a representative of the Society of Gynecological Surgeons; a representative appointed  
15 by the Society of Thoracic Surgeons; a representative appointed by the American Cancer  
16 Society; a representative appointed by the Massachusetts Hospital Association; a representative  
17 of a community hospital with experience in robotic surgery; and 3 persons to be appointed by  
18 the governor who have undergone robotic surgery.

19           (b) The commission shall investigate and review the use of robotic surgery in the  
20 commonwealth and (1) work to develop a training protocol for each application of robotic  
21 surgery currently being performed in the commonwealth, (2) develop an application process for  
22 hospitals to propose the certification of any new applications of robotic surgery, and (3) establish  
23 guidelines for surgeon training and experience to perform such an operation. The department of  
24 public health shall provide staff and other resources as the commission considers appropriate.  
25 The special commission shall make its final report and recommendations, if any, together with  
26 drafts of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect, by filing the same  
27 with the clerks of the senate and house of representatives not later than October 31, 2014. The  
28 special commission may make such interim reports as it considers appropriate.