

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1357**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Michael R. Knapik***

*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 establishing a special commission on payment in lieu of taxes to municipalities in which group homes are located.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Michael R. Knapik</i>	<i>Second Hampden and Hampshire</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Robert L. Hedlund</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>

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By Mr. Knapik, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1357) of Michael R. Knapik, Bruce E. Tarr, Robert L. Hedlund and Richard J. Ross for legislation to establish a special commission on payment in lieu of taxes to municipalities in which group homes are located. Revenue.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 1474 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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An Act establishing a special commission on payment in lieu of taxes to municipalities in which group homes are located.

*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. There shall be a special commission to make a study and investigation of  
2 establishing a payment in lieu of taxes mechanism for municipalities in which group homes are  
3 located. The commission shall be charged with evaluating options and the practices of other  
4 states, collecting data, and making policy recommendations that will be used to develop a  
5 statewide procedure to compensate municipalities for the properties and buildings occupied by  
6 group homes.

7           SECTION 2. The commission shall consist of the secretary of administration and finance  
8 or his designee, the secretary of health and human services or his designee, the commissioner of  
9 the department of mental health or his designee, the commissioner of department of  
10 developmental services or his designee, the commissioner of the department of housing and  
11 community development or his designee, the commissioner of the department of revenue or his  
12 designee, the chairs of the joint committee on mental health and substance abuse, the chairs of  
13 the joint committee on revenue, the senate minority leader or his designee, the house minority  
14 leader or his designee, and the executive director of the Massachusetts Municipal Association or  
15 his designee.

16           SECTION 3. The commission shall report its findings, recommendations, and annual cost  
17 of its recommendations, as well as any proposed legislation, to the clerks of the senate and house  
18 of representatives and to the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways and means on or  
19 before December 31, 2013.