

SENATE No. 1842**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

Karen E. Spilka

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 the MetroWest commission on the status of women and girls.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>John H. Rogers</i>	<i>12th Norfolk</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Matthew A. Beaton</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>
<i>James E. Timilty</i>	<i>Bristol and Norfolk</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>
<i>Cynthia S. Creem</i>	<i>First Middlesex and Norfolk</i>

SENATE No. 1842

By Ms. Spilka, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Karen E. Spilka, Kate Hogan, John H. Rogers, Carolyn C. Dykema and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish the MetroWest commission on the status of women and girls. Municipalities and Regional Government.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act establishing the MetroWest commission on the status of women and girls.

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 is established a permanent commission on the status of women and
2 girls in MetroWest consisting of 9 persons who are to be appointed by the Massachusetts
3 Commission on the Status of Women. The commission shall conduct an ongoing study of all
4 matters concerning women in MetroWest. The commission shall report their findings to the
5 Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women annually, on or before June 2, and
6 recommend solutions to the problems facing the women of MetroWest. The Massachusetts
7 Commission on the Status of Women shall make such appointments to the MetroWest
8 commission from a pool of applicants who reside in MetroWest. For the purpose of this act,
9 MetroWest shall include the following cities and towns: Ashland, Bellingham, Berlin,
10 Blackstone, Bolton, Clinton, Dover, East Walpole, Fayville, Framingham, Franklin, Holliston,
11 Hopedale, Hopkinton, Hudson, Lancaster, Marlborough, Maynard, Medfield, Medway, Mendon,
12 Milford, Millis, Natick, Needham, Millerville, Millville, Norfolk, Northborough, Norwood,
13 Sheldonville, South Walpole, Sherborn, Southborough, Stow, Sudbury, Walpole, Wayland,
14 Wellesley, Westborough, Weston, Woodville, and Wrentham.

15 SECTION 2. (1) Members shall serve a term of 3 years and until their successors are
16 appointed. Commissioners may be reappointed for 2 consecutive terms. After the completion of
17 2 consecutive terms, former commissioners may reapply to serve on the commission after a year
18 has passed since their last term. The initial members of the MetroWest Commission on the Status
19 of Women and Girls shall be appointed for the following terms: 3 members for a term of one
20 year, 3 members for a term of two years, and 3 members for a term of 3 years. (2) Vacancies in
21 the membership of the commission shall be filled by the Massachusetts Commission on the

22 Status of Women for the balance of the unexpired term. (3) Appointments by the Massachusetts
23 Commission on the Status of Women to the MetroWest Commission on the Status of Women
24 and Girls shall be made in consultation with women's organizations. Nominations shall be
25 solicited between August 1 and September 16 of each year through an open application that is
26 widely distributed throughout MetroWest. Members of the commission should be diverse and
27 represent different towns and municipalities in MetroWest. (4) Members shall serve on the
28 commission as volunteers and will not be compensated. (5) The commission shall elect from
29 among its members a chair, a vice chair, a treasurer and any other officers it deems necessary. (6)
30 The commission shall meet at least 4 times a year, at the members' discretion. Members of the
31 Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women may attend the meetings of the MetroWest
32 Commission on the Status of Women and Girls. (7) The commission may accept and solicit
33 funds, including any gifts, donations, grants, or bequests, or any federal funds for any of the
34 purposes of this section. Such funds shall be deposited in a separate account to be expended at
35 the discretion of the commission. (8) The powers of the commission shall include but not be
36 limited to the following: a) to use voluntary and uncompensated services of private individuals,
37 agencies and organizations as may from time to time be offered and needed; b) to recommend
38 policies and make recommendations to agencies and officers of the state and local subdivisions
39 of government to effectuate the purposes of the commission; c) to enact bylaws for its own
40 governance; and d) to hold regular, public meetings and to hold fact-finding hearings and other
41 public forums as it may deem necessary.