

# **HOUSE . . . . . No. 4114**

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, March 23, 2016.

The committee on Public Health to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 1994) of Jay R. Kaufman for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to robotic surgery in the Commonwealth, reports recommending that the accompanying resolve (House, No. 4114) ought to pass.

For the committee,

KATE HOGAN.

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4114**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to robotic surgery in the Commonwealth.

1           **Resolved**, That there shall be a special commission on robotic surgery which shall make  
2 an investigation and study relative to the use of robotic surgery. The commission shall consist of  
3 3 members of the senate, 1 of whom shall be the senate chair of the joint committee on public  
4 health, 1 of whom shall be a member of the majority party and 1 of whom shall be a member of  
5 the minority party to be appointed by the minority leader; provided however, that 1 member of  
6 the senate shall be designated as co-chair of the commission; 3 members of the house of  
7 representatives, 1 of whom shall be the house chair of the joint committee on public health, 1 of  
8 whom shall be a member of the majority party and 1 of whom shall be a member of the minority  
9 party who shall be appointed by the minority leader; provided, however, that 1 member of the  
10 house shall be designated as co-chair of the commission; the commissioner of public health, or a  
11 designee; a representative appointed by the Massachusetts Medical Society; a representative  
12 appointed by the American Urological Society; a representative of the Society of Gynecological  
13 Surgeons; a representative appointed by the Society of Thoracic Surgeons; a representative  
14 appointed by the American Cancer Society; a representative appointed by the Massachusetts

15 Hospital Association; a representative of a community hospital with experience in robotic  
16 surgery; and 3 persons to be appointed by the governor who have undergone robotic surgery.

17           The commission shall investigate and review the use of robotic surgery and develop a set  
18 of best practices and principles for: (i) training protocols for each application of robotic surgery  
19 currently being performed; (ii) certification processes for new applications of robotic surgery;  
20 and (iii) guidelines for surgeon training and experience to perform robotic surgery. The  
21 department of public health shall provide staff and other resources as the commission considers  
22 appropriate. The special commission may report to the general court from time to time, the  
23 results of its investigation and study and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of  
24 legislation necessary to carry those recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the  
25 clerks of the senate and house of representatives not later than December 31, 2017.