HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 4535 FILED ON: 2/16/2016

HOUSE . . . . . No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Diana DiZoglio*, (BY REQUEST)**

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 pulmonary hypertension task force.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Justin Cann	*15 11th Street W Salisbury, MA 01952*	*2/16/2016*

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HOUSE . . . . . No.

By Ms. DiZoglio of Methuen (by request), a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Justin Cann for legislation to establish a pulmonary hypertension task force. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing a pulmonary hypertension task force.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Chapter 6A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 16Y, as appearing in chapter 46 of the acts of 2015, the following section:—

Section 16Z. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the executive office of health and human services shall establish a pulmonary hypertension task force. The task force shall consist of: the secretary of the executive office of health and human services, or a designee, who shall serve as chair; the commissioner of the department of public health, or a designee; the commissioner of insurance, or a designee; the director of Medicaid, or a designee; and 7 persons to be appointed by the secretary of the executive office of health and human services: 2 of whom shall be representatives from the Massachusetts Medical Society appointed in consultation with their relevant specialty chapters, 1 of whom shall be a representative from the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans, 1 of whom shall be a representative from commercial health insurance plans or managed care organizations doing business in the commonwealth, 1 of whom shall be an individual with a diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension, 1

of whom shall be a representative of a pharmaceutical company that manufactures a drug or device for detecting, preventing, or treating pulmonary hypertension, and 1 of whom shall be a representative of a research, advocacy, or support organization primarily serving individuals with a diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension.

(b) The task force shall: (1) develop and annually update a summary of the advances made in research on and treatment and diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension; (2) develop and annually update a summary of the advances made in access to care for individuals with a diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension; (3) monitor pulmonary hypertension research, services, and support activities across the commonwealth, including coordination of the commonwealth's activities and programs with respect to pulmonary hypertension; (4) develop and annually update a comprehensive strategic plan to improve health outcomes for individuals with a diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension, including recommendations to (a) advance research on pulmonary hypertension, (b) improve the transplantation criteria and process concerning lung and heart-lung transplants for individuals with a diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension, (c) improve public awareness and recognition of pulmonary hypertension, (d) improve health care delivery for individuals with a diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension, (e) improve the early and accurate diagnosis of pulmonary hypertension, and (f) systematically advance the full spectrum of biomedical research on pulmonary hypertension; and (5) develop and annually update the progress made in implementing such comprehensive strategic plan.

(c) The task force shall submit its recommendations to the governor and the clerks of the house of representatives and senate annually on or before December 31.