

SENATE No. 91

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Thomas M. McGee

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 to assess the impact of the public welfare system on the health and well-being of children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Thomas M. McGee</i>	<i>Third Essex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>

SENATE No. 91

By Mr. McGee, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 91) of Thomas M. McGee, Brian M. Ashe, James B. Eldridge and Jennifer L. Flanagan for legislation to assess the impact of the public welfare system on the health and well-being of children. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 56 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**
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An Act to assess the impact of the public welfare system on the health and well-being of children.

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

1 Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 233. The department, in conjunction with other agencies serving children and
3 families, shall conduct an annual child assessment as part of a child surveillance study on the
4 impact of the public welfare system on the health and well-being of children from 0 to 18 years
5 of age. The assessment shall include, but need not be limited to: the measure and assessment of
6 nutritional status through height and weight measurements; birth outcomes status, including birth
7 weight; poverty status; school readiness status and safety status, including injury prevalence rates
8 and hospitalization rates. The assessment shall be submitted to the house and senate committees

- 9 on ways and means, the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities, the
- 10 joint committee on health care financing and the joint committee on education by April 1.