

HOUSE No. 3519

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven Ultrino

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 resolve:

Resolve establishing a special commission relative to correctional education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>	<i>1/20/2017</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/22/2017</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>	<i>3/22/2017</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>3/22/2017</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>3/27/2017</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/23/2017</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/26/2017</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/28/2017</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>3/27/2017</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>

HOUSE No. 3519

By Mr. Ultrino of Malden, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 3519) of Steven Ultrino and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to educational programs in the state prisons and the county houses of correction. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

Resolve establishing a special commission relative to correctional education.

1 **Resolved**, That a special commission, to consist of 11 members: 2 members of the senate
2 appointed by the senate president, 1 of whom shall be a member of the joint committee on
3 education, and 1 of whom shall be a member of the joint committee on mental health and
4 substance abuse, 2 members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker, 1 of whom
5 shall be a member of the joint committee on education, and 1 of whom shall be a member of the
6 joint committee on mental health and substance abuse, the sheriff of Middlesex county, who
7 shall act as its chairperson, the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, or a
8 designee, the secretary of public safety and security, or a designee, and 4 persons to be appointed
9 by the governor, 1 of whom shall be a representative of the American Civil Liberties Union of
10 Massachusetts, Inc.; 1 of whom shall be a representative of Massachusetts Correctional Legal
11 Services, Inc.; 1 of whom shall be a person with experience in correctional education and higher
12 education and 1 of whom shall be selected from a list of 3 persons nominated by the president of
13 the Local 509 of the Service Employees International Union who shall be an employee of the
14 Department of Correction with experience in correctional education, is hereby established

15 pursuant to section 2A of chapter 4 for the purpose of making an investigation and study relative
16 to educational programs in the state prisons and the county houses of correction.

17 The commission shall: (i) solicit information and input from correctional education
18 providers, correctional program officers, educational institutions and research organizations,
19 prison advocacy organizations, inmates and their families, and any other parties or entities the
20 commission deems appropriate; (ii) review and identify correctional education needs throughout
21 the commonwealth's correctional institutions, and best practices in the commonwealth and from
22 other states; (iii) develop recommendations for county and state correctional institutions
23 regarding correctional education, specifically addressing recidivism, inmate demographics and
24 educational needs, intake and discharge practices, special education, programs for English
25 language learners, literacy and numeracy programs, high school equivalency credentials, post-
26 secondary education programs, program quality and accountability, mental health and substance
27 abuse programs, workforce training and development programs, and any other topics that the
28 commission deems appropriate.

29 Members of the commission shall be named and the commission shall commence its
30 work within 60 days of the effective date of this resolve. The commission shall submit a report
31 setting forth the commission's findings and recommendations to the clerk of the house of
32 representatives, the clerk of the senate, the joint committee on education, and the joint committee
33 on mental health and substance abuse within 180 days of the effective date of this resolve.