

SENATE No. 1268

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 resolve:

Resolve creating a special commission to examine the health impacts of electromagnetic fields.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>	
<i>Jack Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/2/2017</i>
<i>Kevin J. Kuros</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>2/3/2017</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/15/2017</i>

SENATE No. 1268

By Ms. Spilka, a petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 1268) of Karen E. Spilka, Jack Lewis, James B. Eldridge, Kevin J. Kuros and others for legislation to create a special commission to examine the health impacts of electromagnetic fields. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

Resolve creating a special commission to examine the health impacts of electromagnetic fields.

1 **Resolved**, There shall be a special commission on the health impacts of electromagnetic
2 fields on the citizens of the Commonwealth. The commission shall be comprised of the house
3 and senate chairs of the joint committee on public health as well as the ranking house and senate
4 minority members on the committee; the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on
5 telecommunication, utilities and energy and the ranking house and senate minority members; the
6 commissioner of the department of public health or a designee; a scientist who is a specialist in
7 environmental medicine and is knowledgeable about the health effects of electromagnetic fields
8 who shall be appointed by the governor; a pediatrician who shall be appointed by the governor;
9 three specialists in public health or environmental medicine, one each who shall be appointed by
10 the governor, the senate president and the speaker of the house; a member of the Massachusetts
11 Medical Society who is a specialist in environmental medicine who shall serve as chair; a
12 member of the Massachusetts Board of Education; and a member of a Massachusetts school
13 board or committee. No appointee shall have a financial interest in the telecommunications,
14 technology, utility and energy industries.

15 The commission shall examine non-industry funded science for all facets of health
16 impacts of electromagnetic fields from all sources, including but not limited to the use of cellular
17 devices, utility smart meters, Wi-Fi, and the use of Wi-Fi in public facilities, including but not
18 limited to public schools. The commission shall include in its report an investigation of the
19 health impacts of electromagnetic fields, including but not limited to the effects on reproductive
20 systems, brain function including memory loss, diminished learning, performance impairment in
21 children, headaches and neurodegenerative conditions, melatonin suppression and sleep
22 disorders, fatigue, hormonal imbalances, immune dysregulation such as allergic and
23 inflammatory responses, cardiac and blood pressure problems, genotoxic effects like
24 miscarriage, cancers such as childhood leukemia, and childhood and adult brain tumors. The
25 commission shall study whether electromagnetic radiation exposure may have a disparate impact
26 on potentially vulnerable subgroups including children, fetuses, pregnant women, the elderly and
27 those with preexisting illnesses or impairments. The commission shall investigate whether
28 children are more vulnerable to electromagnetic radiation due to their developing nervous
29 systems or other physical characteristics.

30 The commission shall convene no later than 60 days following the enactment of this
31 resolve. The commission shall file a report with the clerks of the house and senate no later than
32 July 31, 2018. The commission shall make any necessary recommendations to the General Court
33 on legislation designed to protect the health of the citizens of the Commonwealth including a
34 recommendation on whether, within public schools, children's exposure to electromagnetic
35 fields, including those from Wi-Fi, should be eliminated or reduced. The commission may also
36 make recommendations on any other matter that may come before the commission that will
37 enhance the protection of the public health.