

SENATE No. 2616

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

SENATE, July 19, 2018

The committee on Rules to whom was referred the Senate Bill establishing a special commission to identify opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of state agencies, programs, and services (Senate, No. 1727),-- reports, recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2616).

For the committee,
Mark C. Montigny

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
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An Act establishing a special commission to identify opportunities to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of state agencies, programs, and services.

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

1 SECTION 1. The General Laws are hereby amended by inserting after chapter 11 the
2 following chapter:-

3 Chapter 11A

4 Government Efficiencies Commission

5 SECTION 1. (a) There shall be a special commission to study and make recommendations
6 concerning functional overlaps and other redundancies among state agencies and opportunities to
7 promote efficiency and accountability in state government. The commission shall consist of the
8 following members or their designees: (i) the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on
9 state administration and regulatory oversight, who shall serve as co-chairs; (ii) the chair of the
10 house committee on post audit and oversight; (iii) the chair of the senate committee on post audit
11 and oversight; (iv) the minority leader of the house; (v) the minority leader of the senate; (vi) the
12 state auditor; (vii) the assistant secretary of commonwealth performance, accountability and

13 transparency; (viii) the treasurer and receiver general; and (ix) 2 members that shall be appointed
14 by the governor.

15 (b) The commission shall identify ways to eliminate overlaps and redundancies among
16 state agencies and make other recommendations as the commission considers appropriate with the
17 goal of reducing costs to the commonwealth and enhancing the quality and accessibility of state
18 services to the public. The commission shall consider merging or consolidating state agencies and
19 programs if a merger would reduce costs without adversely impacting the quality of services. The
20 commission shall also seek to identify opportunities to maximize revenues, such as federal grants
21 and matching funds.

22 (c) The commission may hold hearings and invite testimony from experts and the public.
23 The commission shall review and identify best practices learned from similar efforts in other states,
24 including the state of Connecticut's Commission on Enhancing Agency Outcomes which
25 submitted its final report on December 30, 2010.

26 (d) The agency head and staff of each state agency under consideration by the commission
27 shall ensure that any data, information or materials that the commission requests for purposes of
28 its review and deliberations are provided to the commission in a timely manner.

29 (e) Members of the commission shall be named and the commission shall begin its work
30 within 60 days of the effective date of this act. The commission shall report to the general court
31 the results of its investigation and study and recommendations, if any, together with drafts of
32 legislation necessary to carry its recommendations into effect by filing the same with the clerks of
33 the senate and the house of representatives within 1 year of the effective date of this act. The clerks
34 of the senate and house shall post the report on the website of the general court.