

SENATE No. 2157

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford

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 citizens commission concerning the commonwealth of Massachusetts being in alignment with the UN treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/11/2019</i>

SENATE No. 2157

By Ms. Comerford, a petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 2157) of Joanne M. Comerford, Mike Connolly, James B. Eldridge, Rebecca L. Rausch and other members of the General Court for legislation to create a citizens commission concerning the commonwealth of Massachusetts being in alignment with the UN treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)

Resolve creating a citizens commission concerning the commonwealth of Massachusetts being in alignment with the UN treaty on the prohibition of nuclear weapons.

1 **Resolved**, There shall be a non-partisan Citizens Commission to advance the intention of
2 the commonwealth of Massachusetts to be in alignment with the 2017 UN Treaty on the
3 Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, hereinafter referred to as the treaty. The commission shall be
4 comprised of 11 United States citizens who are residents of Massachusetts, one member who
5 shall be appointed by the governor, one member who shall be appointed by the secretary of the
6 commonwealth, one member who shall be appointed by the attorney general, one member who
7 shall be appointed by the speaker of the house, one member who shall be appointed by the senate
8 president, and six members who shall additionally be appointed by the governor, from a group of
9 ten individuals nominated by the not for profit organization Massachusetts Peace Action. No
10 person shall be appointed to the commission who has not publicly applied for such appointment,
11 which applications the governor shall cause to be posted on a page established for the public
12 knowledge and oversight of the appointment and operation of the commission on the official

13 website of the commonwealth. No person shall be appointed to the commission that is a current
14 or former employee of any company or military installation involved in the production or
15 maintenance of nuclear weapons.

16 An application by any citizen who seeks to serve on this commission shall state the intent
17 of the applicant to comply with and advance the policy established by this act; the applicant's
18 qualifications and interest in serving on the commission; the political party affiliation, if any, of
19 the applicant over the previous 5 years; the city or town in which the applicant resides; and the
20 employment of the applicant, if employed. All applications for service on the commission shall
21 be submitted within 60 days of the posting of the appointment opportunity on the official website
22 of the commonwealth, which posting the governor shall cause to be made within 30 days of
23 effective date of this Act.

24 All appointments shall be made no sooner than 90 days and no later than 120 days
25 following the effective date of this act. In making appointments to the commission, the governor,
26 secretary of the commonwealth, attorney general, president of the senate and speaker of the
27 house shall consider the non-partisan nature of the commission, and shall seek to ensure that the
28 commission reflects a range of geographical, political and demographic backgrounds.

29 Appointees to the commission shall serve without compensation.

30 Members of the commission shall elect a chair or co-chairs, in the manner as the
31 members of the commission may decide by majority vote. The commission shall meet on a
32 regular basis to research, gather evidence, testimony and advice in the manner that the members
33 of the commission determine is most conducive to achieving the objectives of this act, provided,
34 however, that the commission proceedings and activities shall be subject to the Open Meeting

35 Law and the Public Records Law, and that all residents of Massachusetts have a reasonable
36 opportunity to offer their views and ideas related to the policies herein to the commission.

37 The commission shall work to inform citizens and legislators about the consequences and
38 implications of bringing the commonwealth into alignment with the 2017 Nuclear Ban Treaty,
39 including but not limited to a full appraisal of how jobs, technologies and industries currently
40 devoted to nuclear weapons within the commonwealth could be converted to address climate
41 change and other pressing social needs.

42 The commission shall file a report with the clerks of the house and senate, and with the
43 governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, and all Massachusetts members of the
44 Massachusetts federal congressional delegation no later than July 31, 2021.

45 The final report of the commission shall include the following: an inventory of all
46 companies, facilities and institutions in the state involved in the nuclear weapons industry, an
47 inventory of all state investments, including state pension funds, held in companies involved in
48 the nuclear weapons industry, an inventory of all state contracts with companies involved in the
49 nuclear weapons industry, including the total value of each contract, documentation of the
50 economic impact that the nuclear weapons industry has on the state, including but not limited to
51 the total workforce employed by the industry in the state, the total revenue generated in the state
52 from the industry, and all facilities and infrastructure utilized and/or managed by the nuclear
53 weapons industry within the state, an inventory of the total number of jobs and contracts directly
54 related to prohibited activities as designated under the Nuclear Ban Treaty, an inventory of the
55 transferable skills, technology, and infrastructure employed by the nuclear weapons industry and
56 recommendations for how they may be converted to industry and technology that address climate

57 change or other relevant and pressing social needs, recommendations for an appropriate nuclear
58 industry conversion timeline, including an assessment of the estimated cost of conversion to the
59 state and federal government, recommendations for establishing procedures that screen all
60 potential state contracts for involvement in the nuclear weapons industry, an analysis of the
61 impact that state conversion from the nuclear weapons industry to industries which address
62 climate change and other relevant social needs will have on that state economy and the US
63 nuclear weapons industry, and recommendations for any and all additional steps the state can
64 take to influence the federal government to sign and ratify the Nuclear Ban Treaty. The
65 commission shall make any necessary recommendations to the general court on legislation
66 designed to bring the commonwealth into alignment with the treaty.