

SENATE No. 717

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marc R. Pacheco

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 create a special commission to improve transparency and affordability at the Group Insurance Commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Marc R. Pacheco</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Bristol</i>	
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2019</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>2/1/2019</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/5/2019</i>

SENATE No. 717

By Mr. Pacheco, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 717) of Marc R. Pacheco, Mike Connolly, Rebecca L. Rausch, Sean Garballey and other members of the General Court for legislation to create a special commission to improve transparency and affordability at the Group Insurance Commission. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to create a special commission to improve transparency and affordability at the Group Insurance Commission.

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. There shall be a special commission governed by section 2A of chapter 4 of
2 the General Laws to: (i) assess public transparency at the Group Insurance Commission with
3 respect to its procurement and contracting processes; (ii) make recommendations to improve
4 transparency at the Group Insurance Commission including, but not limited to, requiring the
5 public disclosure of its vendor contracts involving health care costs and pharmaceutical pricing;
6 (iii) evaluate the potential use of reference based pricing as a means of making medical costs
7 through the Group Insurance Commission affordable and uniform; (iv) investigate the value and
8 viability of a public option health insurance plan available to public and non-public employees in
9 the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The commission shall file its findings and
10 recommendations, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry those recommendations
11 into effect, with the clerks of the senate and the house of representatives, the chairs of the senate

12 and house committees on public service and the chairs of the senate and house committees on
13 health care financing not later than December 1, 2019.

14 The commission shall consist of 1 member who shall be appointed by the senate
15 president, who shall serve as co-chair; 1 member who shall be appointed by the minority leader
16 of the senate; 1 member who shall be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives,
17 who shall serve as co-chair; 1 member who shall be appointed by the minority leader of the
18 house of representatives; the secretary of administration and finance or a designee; and 1
19 member to be appointed by each of the following organizations: the Massachusetts Teachers
20 Association; the American Federation of Teachers, Massachusetts; the Retired State, County and
21 Municipal Employees Association of Massachusetts; the Massachusetts Public Employees
22 Council, #93, AFSCME, Massachusetts State Labor Council, AFL CIO; Massachusetts State
23 Employees Association, NAGE; the Massachusetts Municipal Association; the Massachusetts
24 Chapter of the AFL CIO; and the Massachusetts Organization of State Engineers and Scientists.