

HOUSE No. 125

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.

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 relative to the promotion of secure telehealth systems.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/11/2021</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>	<i>3/11/2021</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>3/24/2021</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>4/7/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 125

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 125) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for legislation to establish a commission to study and report on the safety and privacy concerns of telemedicine systems. Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to the promotion of secure telehealth systems.

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. Notwithstanding any general or special laws to the contrary, there shall be
2 established a commission to study and report on the safety and privacy concerns of telemedicine
3 systems for the purpose of ensuring safe use by providers and patients, and to promote the secure
4 use and expansion of telemedicine systems.

5 The commission shall (1) identify risks posed to consumers by telemedicine systems such
6 as the breach of personal data; (2) review and identify gaps in the current regulatory framework
7 and security principles governing telemedicine in Massachusetts; (3) evaluate the effectiveness
8 of privacy and risk management laws in place to protect providers and consumers utilizing
9 telehealth systems and services; (4) identify outdated state policies and regulations that prevent
10 the growth and use of telemedicine systems; (5) issue recommendations regarding how to
11 improve state security policies concerning the use of telemedicine systems by providers and
12 patients; and (6) issue recommendations concerning policies that may need to be changed or

13 updated in order to promote the secure use and expansion of telemedicine services in
14 Massachusetts.

15 The commission shall consist of the chairs of the joint committee on economic
16 development and emerging technologies or designees, who shall serve as the co chairs; the
17 speaker of the house of representatives or a designee; the president of the senate or a designee;
18 the house minority leader or a designee; the senate minority leader or a designee; the chairs of
19 the joint committee on public health or designees; the chair of the house committee on
20 technology and intergovernmental affairs or a designee; the executive director of the
21 Massachusetts health policy commission or a designee; and the secretary of the executive office
22 of health and human services or a designee.

23 The commission shall submit a final report with its findings regarding the security
24 policies governing telemedicine systems, along with any recommendations regarding how to
25 establish a strong security framework governing telemedicine and update policies to allow for its
26 expansion, to the house and senate clerks, the chairs of the joint committee on economic
27 development and emerging technologies, and the chairs of the joint committee on public health,
28 by December 31, 2021.