

HOUSE No. 128

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul W. Mark

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 a Massachusetts broadband competitive marketplace study.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/11/2021</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>2/22/2021</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>First Essex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 128

By Mr. Mark of Peru, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 128) of Paul W. Mark and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the state of the advanced telecommunications broadband industry. 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 a Massachusetts broadband competitive marketplace study.

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 XXXX. (a) There shall be a special commission to examine the state of the
2 advanced telecommunications broadband industry in Massachusetts, including fiber-to-the-
3 premises, cable, wireless, and landline technologies with the goal of recommending a rational
4 and balanced approach to oversight of the interconnected telecommunications network of the
5 future and ensure the Commonwealth's consumers, both residents and businesses, as well as
6 Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLECs) have access to reliable and competitive
7 broadband network.

8 (b) The commission shall review: (i) status of competition and pricing for broadband
9 communications services and networks; (ii) current and future consumer expectations; (iii)
10 assessment of national and international approaches to ensuring core public interest principles
11 and robust communications capabilities are maintained; (iv) reliability, resiliency and
12 interoperability of networks; (v) technology types and speeds available across the state; (vi)

13 access and underservice issues; (vii) Overview of the E-Rate, Rural Health, and FirstNet Federal
14 and other broadband programs in the Commonwealth; and (viii) comparative analysis of results
15 matching census data across the Commonwealth.

16 (c) The special commission shall consist of the following members or their designees: the
17 Commissioner of the department of telecommunications and cable, who shall serve as a co-chair;
18 the senate and house chairmen of the Joint Committee on Telecommunication, Utilities and
19 Energy who shall serve as the other co-chairs; (1) representative of the Massachusetts Attorney
20 General Consumer Advocacy & Response Division (1) representative of the Massachusetts
21 Communications Supervisors Association.; (1) representative of the Massachusetts Broadband
22 Institute; (1) representative of the Massachusetts Municipal Association, Inc.; (1) representative
23 of the Massachusetts Technology Leadership Council ; (1) representative designated by the
24 President of the AFL-CIO from a Massachusetts telecommunications union and (2) members
25 who shall be appointed by the governor, (1) of whom shall be a professor from with research in
26 telecommunication policy, and (1) of whom shall be a senior executive/manager from a
27 Competitive Local Exchange Carrier (CLEC).

28 (d) The special commission shall file an initial report of its recommendations and drafts
29 of proposed broadband legislation or regulations, if any, on subsection (b) with the clerks of the
30 house of representatives and the senate, the President of the Senate, The Speaker of the House of
31 Representatives, the Governor and the chairs of the house and senate committees on ways and
32 means not later than December 31, 2022. The special commission shall file a final report
33 providing a full report regarding said subsection (b) not later than March 1, 2023.