

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1315**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Todd M. Smola***

*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 providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to chronic disease care self-management.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>	<i>2/1/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1315**

---

By Mr. Smola of Warren, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 1315) of Todd M. Smola for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to chronic disease care self-management. Health Care Financing.

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1195 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

Resolve providing for an investigation and study by a special commission relative to chronic disease care self-management.

1           **Resolved**, That a special legislative commission, to consist of: 3 members of the senate, 1  
2 of whom shall be appointed by the minority leader of the senate, and 1 of whom shall serve as  
3 co-chair; 3 members of the house of representatives, 1 of whom shall be a appointed by the  
4 minority leader of the house of representatives, and 1 of whom shall serve as co-chair; the  
5 secretary of elder affairs, the commissioner of the department of public health, the commissioner  
6 of the department of mental health, the commissioner of insurance and the director of Medicaid,  
7 or their designees; and 8 persons to be appointed by the governor, 3 of whom shall be  
8 representatives from the Massachusetts Medical Society appointed in consultation with their  
9 relevant specialty chapters, including a geriatric physician, a primary care physician, and an  
10 emergency physician, 1 of whom shall be a representative from the Massachusetts Association of  
11 Health Plans, 2 of whom shall be representatives from commercial health insurance plans or

12 managed care organizations doing business in the commonwealth, 1 of whom shall be a person  
13 who has a chronic health condition, including, but not limited to cancer, diabetes, multiple  
14 sclerosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or cystic fibrosis, and 1 of whom shall be a  
15 representative from the Massachusetts Nurses Association who shall be a nurse, is hereby  
16 established pursuant to section 2A of chapter 4 of the General Laws for the purpose of making an  
17 investigation and study relative to supporting self-management in the care of patients, with a  
18 focus on patients with chronic illness. The investigation and study shall include: (i) an  
19 assessment of current research on the subject of patient self-management and self-support, and  
20 whether there exist evidence-based, best or promising practices; (ii) a review of current policies  
21 and practices with respect to their impact on the ability of a patient to manage chronic diseases;  
22 (iii) the provision of assistance to the department of public health, other state agencies and  
23 organizations for the development of professional and public educational materials and programs  
24 on chronic disease care self-management and general healthcare self-management; (iv) the  
25 provision of assistance to the department of public health, other state agencies and organizations  
26 relative to applications for federal funding to support efforts consistent with the mission and  
27 purpose of the commission; and (v) any other matters that the commission considers relevant to  
28 the fulfillment of its mission and purpose.

29

30 Said commission shall provide guidance and advice to the governor, the general court  
31 and the secretary of health and human services relative to current status of supporting self-  
32 management, particularly in the care of patients with chronic illness, including, but not limited  
33 to, best and promising practices and recommend policies, including legislation, to promote  
34 greater public awareness of self-management care options for patients. The special commission

35 may conduct public hearings, forums or meetings to gather information and to raise awareness of  
36 self-management care options for patients, particularly those with chronic illness, including the  
37 sponsorship of or participation in statewide or regional conferences.

38

39 Said commission shall report to the general court the results of its investigation and  
40 study and its recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry its  
41 recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the senate and the clerk of the  
42 house of representatives on or before December 31, 2018.