

HOUSE No. 499

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

David M. Rogers

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 establishing a commission to study the Commonwealth’s response to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/18/2021</i>
<i>Susan L. Moran</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/15/2021</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>7/13/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 499

By Mr. Rogers of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 499) of David M. Rogers, Susan L. Moran and Elizabeth A. Malia for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the response of the Commonwealth to the COVID-19 pandemic. Covid-19 and Emergency Preparedness and Management.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing a commission to study the Commonwealth’s response to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

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. (a) There is hereby established a special legislative commission pursuant to
2 section 2A of chapter 4 of the General Laws to investigate and make recommendations regarding
3 the Commonwealth’s response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

4 (b) The commission shall consist of the following 17 members: 2 of whom shall be the
5 house and senate chairs of the joint committee on COVID-19 and emergency preparedness and
6 management who shall serve as co-chairs; 1 member of the house of representatives to be
7 appointed by the speaker of the house; 1 member of the senate to be appointed by the president
8 of the senate; 2 of whom shall be appointed by the governor; 1 medical professional with
9 experience in COVID treatment and response each from Massachusetts General Hospital,
10 Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston Medical Center, Boston Children’s Hospital, and the
11 University of Massachusetts Memorial Health Center; 2 members appointed by the co-chairs,

12 one of whom shall be an expert in epidemiology and one of whom shall be an expert in
13 infectious disease; 2 representatives appointed by the governor with backgrounds in racial health
14 care disparities; and 2 representative appointed by the governor with a background in economics
15 and fiscal policy. The co-chairs may appoint up to two additional members to fulfill the purpose
16 and goals of the commission.

17 (c) The commission shall investigate the Commonwealth's medical, fiscal, and social
18 response to the global COVID-19 pandemic and produce a report outlining the Commonwealth's
19 response to this pandemic and identifying the areas in which improvement is needed. The report
20 shall be used to inform a response to any potential future pandemic.

21 (d) No later than 1 year after the effective date of this act, the commission shall submit a
22 report of its findings and recommendations to the legislature, including, if applicable, drafts of
23 legislation necessary to effectuate those recommendations.