

HOUSE No. 144

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Thomas P. Walsh

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 establishing a special commission to review advancements in educational technology, digital/online learning and related programs.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Thomas P. Walsh</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>	<i>2/4/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 144

By Mr. Walsh of Peabody, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 144) of Thomas P. Walsh for an investigation by a special commission relative to advancements in educational technology, digital and online learning, and related programs. Advanced Information Technology, the Internet and Cybersecurity.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

Resolve establishing a special commission to review advancements in educational technology, digital/online learning and related programs.

1 **Resolved**, establishing a special commission to review advancements in educational
2 technology, digital/online learning and related programs in order to provide the Administration,
3 the Legislature, Municipalities and all other interested parties with the most current research and
4 information concerning educational technology and content to assess the feasibility of state,
5 local and private educational systems adopting, implementing or integrating current technology
6 to enhance and improve the educational experience for students and educational professionals
7 while reducing costs for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

8 WHEREAS there have been exceptional advancements and innovation with educational
9 technology in recent years, and

10 WHEREAS the current pandemic has demonstrated the need to upgrade the methodology
11 of providing educational instruction and innovation to insure that our citizens and educational
12 professionals are properly served, and

13 WHEREAS it is necessary that our public officials and educational professionals to have
14 the best possible information about the available resources to adequately provide educational
15 opportunities for all of their constituents and particularly the underserved populations. It is
16 hereby

17 Resolved, that a special commission be established to review advancements in
18 educational technology, digital/online learning and related programs in order to provide the
19 Administration, the Legislature, Municipalities and all other interested parties with the most
20 current research and information concerning educational technology and content to assess the
21 feasibility of state, local and private educational systems adopting, implementing or integrating
22 improved technology to enhance the educational experience for students and educational
23 professionals and reduce costs for the citizens of the Commonwealth.

24 The commission shall consist of 9 members as follows: the secretary of technology
25 services and security, the chairman of the board of higher education, the chair of the board of
26 elementary and secondary education, or their designee(s) and 6 members appointed by the
27 governor: one of whom shall represent either umass online or mass colleges online, one of whom
28 shall be from the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities in Massachusetts, two of
29 whom shall be representatives of digital learning technology and content companies , two of
30 whom shall be a representatives of U.S. -based, large technology companies with a significant
31 component in educational technology who have a business presence in the Commonwealth.

32 In addition to an analysis of the technology the commission shall address issues such as
33 improving access to underserved populations,public/private partnerships, cost containment and
34 the integration of educational technology in non-traditional venues.

35 Appointments to the commission shall be made within 30 days of the Governor's
36 approval of this Resolve.

37 The commission shall report to the Governor and the general court the results of its study
38 and recommendations by filing the same

39 with the Governor and the clerk of the house of representatives within 180 days of the
40 appointments to the Commission.

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