

HOUSE No.

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 establishing a commission to study the feasibility of joining the counseling compact.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>11/20/2023</i>

HOUSE No.

By Representative Jones of North Reading, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to study the feasibility of joining the counseling compact. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to establishing a commission to study the feasibility of joining the counseling compact.

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 law to the contrary, there shall be a
2 commission to study the feasibility of Massachusetts joining the counseling compact for licensed
3 mental health counselors.

4 SECTION 2. The commission shall consist of the house and senate chairs of the joint
5 committee on consumer protection and professional licensure, who shall serve as the co-chairs;
6 the house and senate chairs of the joint committee on health care financing or their designee; the
7 house and senate chairs of the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery, or
8 their designee; one member to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; one
9 member to be appointed by the house minority leader; one member to be appointed by the senate
10 president; one member to be appointed by the senate minority leader; the commissioner of the
11 department of mental health or designee; one member of the board of Massachusetts Mental

12 Health Counselors Association, Inc.; one member of the Board of Registration of Allied Mental
13 Health and Human Services Professionals; one member of the Massachusetts Association for
14 Mental Health; and one member of the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Greater Boston.

15 SECTION 3. The commission shall study the feasibility of joining the counseling
16 compact for licensed mental health counselors and make recommendations to the legislature.

17 SECTION 4. The commission shall submit its report and findings, along with any
18 recommendations and drafted legislation, to the house and senate committees on ways and means
19 and the clerks of the house of representatives and senate within 6 months of the passage of this
20 act.