

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

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Kimberly N. Ferguson***

*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 to establish an acquired brain injury advisory board.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>1/9/2025</i>

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

[Pin Slip]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)**

An Act to establish an acquired brain injury advisory board.

*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. An acquired brain injury advisory board shall be established to collaborate  
2 with appropriate state secretariats and their agencies, members of the legislature, individuals with  
3 acquired brain injuries and their family members, providers, clinicians, advocacy groups and  
4 other key stakeholders to review, advise, and report on services and supports, and public policy  
5 there under for individuals with acquired brain injuries and their families.

6           SECTION 2: Said advisory board shall consist of 2 members of the Senate, 1 of whom  
7 shall be appointed by the President, 1 of whom shall be appointed by the Minority Leader; 2  
8 members of the House of Representatives, 1 of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker, 1 of  
9 whom shall be appointed by the Minority Leader; the Secretary of Health and Human Services or  
10 their designee; the Secretary of the Executive Office of Public Safety or their designee; the  
11 Secretary of Elder Affairs or their designee; the Secretary of Veterans Services or their designee;  
12 the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health or their designee; 2 members from the  
13 MassAbility, 1 who shall be the Commissioner or their designee, 1 who shall be appointed by the

14 Commissioner; the Commissioner of the Department of Developmental Services or their  
15 designee; the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health or their designee; 2 members of  
16 the MassHealth, 1 who shall be the Director or their designee, and 1 who shall be the Director of  
17 Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Administration or their designee; the  
18 Commissioner of the Division of Insurance or their designee, the Executive Director of the  
19 Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) or their designee, the Chief Executive  
20 Officer at the Brain Injury Association of Massachusetts, Inc. or their designee; and 8 members  
21 who shall be appointed by the Governor, 2 of whom shall be family members, caretakers or  
22 significant others of a person with acquired brain injury, 2 of whom shall be individuals with  
23 acquired brain injury, including but not limited to individuals who have experienced traumatic  
24 brain injury, stroke, brain tumors or other disorders, 1 of whom shall be a community based  
25 provider of services to individuals with acquired brain injury 1 of whom shall be a community  
26 based provider of services to individuals with acquired brain injury serving minorities and other  
27 underserved populations, 1 of whom shall be from a disability advisory group or a protection and  
28 advocacy representative, 1 of whom shall be a clinician.

29 SECTION 3. Said advisory board directives shall include, but are not limited to,  
30 reviewing data concerning the epidemiology of acquired brain injury and the needs of  
31 individuals with acquired brain injury and their families; reviewing efforts to increase access to  
32 rehabilitative, residential and integrated community based support services for persons with  
33 acquired brain injury; monitoring the implementation of the acquired brain injury commission  
34 recommendations regarding the improvement of such services; and reviewing ongoing state  
35 public policy initiatives and state funding.

36           SECTION 4: Said advisory board shall file a biennial report with the Governor, the  
37 Secretary of the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, the Senate President, the  
38 Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the clerks of the Senate and House of  
39 Representatives. Said report shall include but not be limited to a summary of ongoing needs of  
40 individuals with acquired brain injury, the status of progress made in increasing access to  
41 rehabilitative, residential and integrated community-based support services for individuals with  
42 acquired brain injury; and the status of progress made in implementing the acquired brain injury  
43 commission recommendations regarding the improvement of such services.

44           SECTION 5. Said advisory board shall meet quarterly, at minimum, and may establish  
45 subcommittees as necessary to carry out its objectives.