

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

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 an emergency assistance shelter system oversight commission to continually evaluate all expenditures related to the system.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Bruce E. Tarr

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Essex and Middlesex

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act establishing an emergency assistance shelter system oversight commission to continually evaluate all expenditures related to the system.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 There shall be established an emergency assistance shelter system oversight commission
2 to evaluate and report on the cost-effectiveness of the operation of the commonwealth’s
3 emergency assistance shelter system. The commission shall conduct monthly evaluations of all
4 expenditures related to the emergency assistance shelter system, including, but not limited to,
5 any goods or services provided to individuals in the shelter system.

6 The commission shall consist of: the chairs of the joint committee on ways and means or
7 their designees, who shall serve as co-chairs; 1 member appointed by the speaker of the house of
8 representatives; 1 member appointed by the president of the senate; 1 member appointed by the
9 minority leader of the house of representatives; 1 member appointed by the minority leader of
10 the senate; the executive director of the office for refugees and immigrants or their designee; the
11 secretary of housing and livable communities or their designee; the secretary of health and
12 human services or their designee; the secretary of administration and finance or their designee;
13 and 1 member appointed by the office of the veteran advocate.

14 The commission shall submit its monthly report, along with any recommendations, to the
15 clerks of the house of representatives and the senate no later than the 15th of each month.”