HOUSE DOCKET, NO. FILED ON: 1/13/2009

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

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

**Paul K. Frost**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

Resolve providing for an investigation and study of providing veterans with increased healthcare access.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PETITION OF:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: | District/Address: |
| Paul K. Frost | 7th Worcester |

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3702 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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Resolve providing for an investigation and study of providing veterans with increased healthcare access.

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

 *Resolved,* A commission is hereby established to examine whether or not veteran’s benefits should include medical compensation, pursuant to Section 5 of Chapter 115 of the General Laws. Said commission will review the proposal of benefits that would include payment of health care costs accumulated at a hospital not classified as a veteran’s hospital if said hospital provided services not available at said veteran’s hospital, or if the designated veteran’s hospital is more than 30 miles away from the veteran. Payment for medical services rendered to a veteran at a non-veteran hospital shall be the responsibility of veteran’s hospitals or federal veterans agencies to be determined by said commission that will examine the costs and benefits of providing medical care outside of veteran hospitals. Said commission shall report results, if any, as well as a proposal for the legislature that would enact this program, to the General Court and the House of Representatives. Said commission will report findings, if any, no later than July 1, 2006.