

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mary E. Grant

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:

An Act to form a special commission to study pharmaceutical and personal care product contamination in our water supply.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Mary E. Grant	6th Essex
Katherine Clark	32nd Middlesex
Peter v. Kocot	1st Hampshire
Barbara A. L'Italien	18th Essex
Matthew C. Patrick	3rd Barnstable
Michael F. Rush	10th Suffolk

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO FORM A SPECIAL COMMISSION TO STUDY PHARMACEUTICAL AND PERSONAL CARE PRODUCT CONTAMINATION IN OUR WATER SUPPLY.

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

1 Chapter 17 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 17, the following section:-

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3 Section 18. There is hereby established a special commission to consist of 14 members to review and
4 frame the public health threats resulting from pharmaceutical, medical and human waste, and personal
5 care product contamination found in our water supply. The special commission shall consist of the
6 following members; the commissioner of the department of public health, or a designee, the
7 commissioner of the department of environmental protection, or a designee; and 12 persons to be
8 appointed by the governor, two of whom shall be academic experts with background in aquatic
9 chemistry and public health, one of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Pharmacists
10 Association, one of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Medical Society, one of whom
11 shall be an oncologist licensed to practice in the Commonwealth, one of whom shall be a pharmacist
12 licensed to practice in the Commonwealth, two of whom shall be representatives of manufacturers of
13 pharmaceuticals and/or personal care products, one of whom shall be a representative of the
14 Massachusetts Biotech Council, one of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Water
15 Works Association, one of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Watershed Coalition,
16 and one of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority. The
17 special commission shall be co-chaired by the commissioner of the department of public health, or a
18 designee and the commissioner of the department of environmental protection, or a designee.

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20 In undertaking its review, the special commission shall examine among such areas it deems necessary,
21 the following: statutory and regulatory changes to current processes contributing to pharmaceutical and
22 personal care product contamination of our water supply, including, but not limited to methods of water
23 filtration, waste water management, proper disposal of pharmaceuticals, medical and human waste,
24 including that of patients on potent treatments such as chemotherapy, and personal care products. The
25 special commission shall submit a report to the joint committee on public health, the joint committee on
26 environment, natural resources and agriculture, and the house and senate committees on ways and
27 means within twelve months of the passage of this bill.