

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kay Khan

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 creating a nursing advisory board.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Kay Khan
Richard T. Moore

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

11th Middlesex
Worcester and Norfolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2140 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT CREATING A NURSING 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. The General Court hereby finds that there exists a nursing shortage in the
2 Commonwealth and that the shortage of qualified nurses will increase in the near future. The
3 General Court further finds that the Commonwealth shall provide a forum for long-range
4 planning and policy development among nursing leaders. This forum will exist to ensure that the
5 Commonwealth meets the nursing and healthcare needs of its citizens.

6
7 SECTION 2. Chapter 6A of the General Laws as so appearing in the 2004 Official Edition is
8 hereby amended by inserting after section 16G the following section:—

9
10 Section 16H. A nursing advisory board is hereby established within, but not subject to
11 the control of, the executive office of health and human services. The advisory board shall
12 consist of 8 members who shall have a demonstrated background in nursing or health services
13 research and who shall represent the continuum of health care settings and services, including,
14 but not limited to, long-term institutional care, acute care, community-based care, public health,
15 school care, advanced practice, psychiatric nursing, and higher education in nursing. The
16 members shall be appointed by the governor from a list of 10 individuals recommended by the
17 board of registration in nursing and a list of 10 persons recommended by the Massachusetts
18 Center for Nursing, Inc. The advisory board shall elect a chair from among its members and
19 adopt bylaws for its proceedings. Members shall be appointed for staggered terms of 3 years,
20 except for persons appointed to fill vacancies who shall serve for the balance of the unexpired
21 term. No member shall serve more than 2 consecutive full terms.

22
23 The advisory board shall:—

- 24 (a) advise the governor and the general court on matters related to the practice of
25 nursing, including the shortage of nurses across the commonwealth in all settings and
26 services, including advanced practice nursing, long-term institutional care, acute care,
27 community-based care, public health, school care, and higher education in nursing;
28 (b) subject to appropriation, develop a research agenda, apply for federal and private
29 research grants, and commission and fund research projects to fulfill the agenda;
30 (c) recommend policy initiatives to the governor and the general court;
31 (d) prepare an annual report and disseminate the report to the governor, the general
32 court, the secretary of health and human services, the director of labor and workforce
33 development and the commissioner of public health; and
34 (e) consider the use of current government resources, including, but not limited to the
35 workforce training fund.
36

37 Any funds granted to the advisory board shall be deposited with the state treasurer and may be
38 expended by the advisory board in accordance with the conditions of the grants, without specific
39 appropriation. The advisory board may expend for services and other expenses any amounts that
40 the general court may appropriate therefore. Said advisory board shall conduct at least 1 public
41 hearing during each year.