

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Buoniconti, Stephen (SEN)**

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*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 Establishing a Commission to Reduce Unnecessary Wait Time for Children with Special Health Care Needs To Receive Needed Medical Equipment Such as Wheelchairs and Lifts.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Buoniconti, Stephen (SEN)	Hampden
Louis L. Kafka	8th Norfolk

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

## RESOLVE

Resolved,

1           that it is a priority of the commonwealth to ensure that children with special health  
2 care needs receive the appropriate necessary medical equipment in a timely manner.  
3 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary a commission shall be established to  
4 examine the process by which children with special health care needs receive durable medical  
5 equipment and make recommendations about how to reduce the barriers that children and  
6 their families currently face in receiving medically necessary and physician-prescribed  
7 equipment including, but not limited to, wheelchairs and lifts. Said Commission shall be known  
8 as "The Commission to Reduce Wait Time for children with special health care needs to receive  
9 needed medical equipment". The commission shall be chaired by the Commissioner of Public  
10 Health and the Commissioner of the Division of Medical Assistance, and shall consist of the  
11 President of the Senate or her designee, The minority leader of the Senate or his designee, The  
12 Speaker of the House of Representatives or his designee, the Minority Leader of the House of  
13 Representatives or his designee, the House and Senate Chairpersons of the Joint Committee on  
14 Health Care Financing or their designee, a parent of a child with special health care needs to be  
15 appointed by the Governor, a licensed physician who treats children with special health care  
16 needs to be appointed by the Governor, the Executive Director of the Massachusetts  
17 Consortium for Children with Special Health Care Needs, a designee of Children's Hospital  
18 Boston, and a designee of the Massachusetts Association of Health Plans.

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20 The Commission shall be directed to make recommendations for fair and suitable guidelines for  
21 private health insurers, the State Medicaid program, and vendors to promptly process  
22 prescriptions for durable medical equipment for children with special health care needs. The  
23 Commission will report its findings to the clerk of the Senate and clerk of the House of  
24 Representatives as well as the House and Senate committees on Ways and Means no later than  
25 December 31, 2009.