

HOUSE No. 01042

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

William N. Brownsberger

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 create a commission to reduce oversight and compliance burdens in special education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

William N. Brownsberger

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

24th Middlesex

HOUSE No. 01042

By Mr. William N. Brownsberger of Belmont, petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 01042) of William N. Brownsberger for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to special education administrative costs. Joint Committee on Education.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to create a commission to reduce oversight and compliance burdens in special education.

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

1 An Act to create a commission to reduce oversight and compliance burdens in special education

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

4

5 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, there shall be commission to make an
6 investigation and to determine whether compliance and oversight procedures pertaining to
7 special education can be streamlined so as to increase resources available for instruction, while
8 assuring transparency and accountability for results in special education.

9 The commission shall be co-chaired by the House and Senate Co-chairs of the Joint Committee
10 on Education who shall each appoint two additional members to the commission. The

11 Commissioner of Education or his designee shall be a member of the commission and the
12 commissioner shall also appoint four additional members who shall include at least two
13 practicing special education teachers and at least two parents of children in special education
14 programs. The Commission shall meet one or more times with an advisory group that shall be
15 constituted of designees of the following organizations: the Massachusetts Association of School
16 Committees, the Massachusetts Teachers Association, the Massachusetts Association of School
17 Superintendents, the Massachusetts Administrators for Special Education, the Massachusetts
18 Organization of Educational Collaboratives, the Massachusetts Association of 766 Approved
19 Private Schools, the Massachusetts Advocates for Children, the Federation for Children with
20 Special Needs, Massachusetts Developmental Disabilities Council.

21 The Commission shall file a report on the results of its investigation, and any recommendations
22 relative thereto, with the joint committee on education no later than November 20, 2012.