

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1087**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Walter F. Timilty*

*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 resolve:

Resolve establishing a special commission relative to reducing the costs associated with the purchase of college textbooks.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>7th Norfolk</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1087**

By Mr. Timilty of Milton, a petition (accompanied by resolve, House, No. 1087) of Walter F. Timilty and Thomas M. Stanley relative to an investigaton and study by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to high cost of college. Higher Education.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION

SEE

□ □ HOUSE  
□ , NO. 1245 OF 2011-2012.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**

Resolve establishing a special commission relative to reducing the costs associated with the purchase of college textbooks.

1 Resolved,  
2 SECTION 1. A special commission is hereby established to investigate and study the  
3 college textbook industry. The investigation and study shall include, but not be limited to,  
4 examining the costs of purchasing textbooks and study materials, reviewing information  
5 concerning offering a choice of lower cost texts, such as soft cover, one color and digital texts,  
6 exploring the effective use of E-textbooks, reviewing changes in editions and the cost savings  
7 related to maintaining a current edition over purchasing the most recent edition, encouraging  
8 colleges to implement comprehensive and controlled buy-back and book swap programs to  
9 reduce costs for students, providing incentives to those schools that offer such programs and  
10 expanding the information available to purchasers of textbooks so that faculty and students alike  
11 are provided with a complete view of all available textbooks for comparison purposes. The  
12 commission shall be appointed by the governor and shall consist of 15 members as follows: the  
13 house and senate chairmen of the joint committee on higher education, 1 member of the house of  
14 representatives, 1 member of the senate, 1 member of the University of Massachusetts  
15 administration or a designee, 1 member of the State College Council of Presidents or a designee,  
16 1 member of the Community College Council of Presidents or a designee, 1 member of  
17 A.C.U.M. or a designee, 2 representatives of the college textbook publishing industry with  
18 offices in the commonwealth, 1 faculty member of a public college of the commonwealth, 1

19 college librarian and 1 student trustee of a public college or the University of Massachusetts.  
20 The commission shall report to the general court the results of its study, together with drafts of  
21 legislation necessary to carry such recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk  
22 of the house of representatives on or before December 31, 2009.