

HOUSE No. 4887

Section 63 contained in the engrossed Bill relative to economic development in the Commonwealth (see House, No. 4732, amended), which had been returned by His Excellency the Governor with recommendation of amendment (for message, see Attachment C of House, No. 4889). August 13, 2018.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act providing for a special legislative commission to study certain joint support programs.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide for a special legislative commission to study certain joint support programs, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

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

1 (a) There shall be a special commission, governed by section 2A of chapter 4 of the
2 General Laws, to study data related to programs that provide joint support for stable housing and
3 to increase economic self-sufficiency. The commission shall examine various program
4 components, program outcomes including changes in earned income, education and state and
5 federally funded services and the feedback of participants and those not enrolled in programs, for
6 the purpose of producing a report with recommendations for criteria for economic mobility and
7 financial stability programs for families and individuals with extremely low incomes, as defined
8 by the federal United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, that may be
9 offered across the commonwealth. The commission shall examine the impacts of cliff effects on

10 households with low incomes and determine ways to adjust assistance in response to changes in
11 income, including automatic adjustments tied to minimum wage increases.

12 (b) The commission shall be chaired by the house and senate chairs of the joint
13 committee on children, families and persons with disabilities. The commission shall consist of,
14 but shall not be limited to, the following members or their designees: the secretary of
15 administration and finance; secretary of education; the secretary of labor and workforce
16 development; the undersecretary of housing and economic development, the commissioner of
17 transitional assistance; the president of the senate; the speaker of the house of representatives; the
18 senate and house chairs of the joint committee on housing; the senate and house chairs of the
19 joint committee on labor and workforce development; and 1 representative of each of the
20 following organizations: Abt Associates; Cambridge housing authority; Central Massachusetts
21 Housing Alliance; Citizens' Housing and Planning Association, Inc.; Compass Collaborative;
22 CONNECT; Economic Mobility Pathways, Inc.; Father Bill's & MainSpring; Franklin County
23 Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority; Homes for Families, Inc.; Housing Assistance
24 Corporation; Local Initiatives Support Corporation; Massachusetts Chapter of the National
25 Association of Housing and Redevelopment Organizations; Massachusetts Association for
26 Community Action; Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless; Massachusetts Law Reform
27 Institute, Inc.; Massachusetts Union of Public Housing Tenants, Inc.; Metro Housing Boston;
28 MIDAS Collaborative, Inc.; Regional Housing Network of Massachusetts, Inc.; United Way of
29 Massachusetts Bay, Inc.; United Way of Merrimack Valley, Inc.; the University of
30 Massachusetts center for social policy; Way Finders; and People Acting in Community
31 Endeavors, Inc.

32 (c) The commission shall file a report of its findings and recommendations, together with
33 drafts of legislation necessary to carry out the recommendations, with the clerks of the the house
34 of representatives and senate, the house and senate and chairs of the joint committee on housing
35 and the house and senate committees on ways and means not later than December 31, 2019.