

SENATE No. 1104

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael R. Knapik

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 special commission on the massachusetts public employees retirement system.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Mr. Knapik	Second Hampden and Hampshire
Mr. Brown	Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex
Mr. Hedlund	Plymouth and Norfolk
Mr. Tarr	First Essex and Middlesex
Mr. Tisei	Middlesex and Essex
Todd M. Smola	1st Hampden

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL COMMISSION ON THE MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

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.** There shall be a special commission to investigate the viability of
2 replacing the Commonwealth's defined benefit retirement system with a defined contribution
3 retirement system for all public employees hired after January first, two thousand and ten.

4 **SECTION 2.** The commission shall collect and review data from the Office of the State
5 Treasurer, the Public Employee Retirement Administration Commission, the Massachusetts
6 Teachers Retirement Board, the Executive Office of Administration and Finance, and any other
7 state or quasi-state agencies or departments with relevant information about unfunded liabilities,
8 the fiscal impact of such a transition on the Commonwealth, and the collective bargaining
9 impacts of said transition.

10 **SECTION 3.** The commission shall consist of the chairs of the joint committee on Public
11 Service or their designees, who shall serve as co-chairs; 1 member of the house of
12 representatives appointed by the minority leader; 1 member of the senate appointed by the
13 minority leader; the secretary of administration and finance or his designee; the treasurer of the

14 commonwealth or his designee; the executive director of the public employee retirement
15 administration commission or his designee; 4 persons appointed by the governor, 1 of whom
16 shall be a representative from the Massachusetts AFL-CIO, 1 of whom shall be a representative
17 from the Retired State, County & Municipal Employees Association of Massachusetts, 1 of
18 whom shall be a professional from an organization based in Massachusetts that services
19 contributory retirement systems, and 1 person employed by a business member of the
20 Associated Industries of Massachusetts.

21 **SECTION 4.** The commission shall hold public hearings to assist in the collection and
22 evaluation of data and testimony from state, county, and municipal employees and the general
23 public.

24 **SECTION 5.** The commission shall file a report of the results of its investigation with
25 the clerks of the house of representatives and senate, the house and senate committees on ways
26 and means and the joint committee on health care financing on or before December 31, 2009.
27 The report shall include recommendations and any legislation necessary to address the transition
28 from a defined benefit retirement system to a defined contribution retirement system.