

SENATE No. 01130

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard T. Moore

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 to protect the health of the citizens of the Commonwealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Richard T. Moore

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Worcester and Norfolk

SENATE No. 01130

By Mr. Moore, petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 1130) of Moore that provision be made for an investigation and study to protect the health of the citizens of the Commonwealth [Joint Committee on Public Health].

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

RESOLVE Resolve to protect the health of the citizens of the Commonwealth

Resolved,

1 Whereas there are serious incidents across the Commonwealth involving the impact of
2 large wind turbines on the health of its citizens, and

3 Whereas people, who live in close proximity to wind turbines or who are concerned
4 about the siting of wind turbines, are concerned about the health impacts of wind turbines,

5 Therefore be it resolved that there shall be a Special Commission on the Health
6 Impacts of Wind Turbines on the citizens of the Commonwealth. Said Commission shall be
7 comprised of the House and Senate Chairmen of the Joint Committee on Public Health as well as
8 the House and Senate ranking minority member on the committee, the House and Senate
9 Chairman of the Joint Telecommunication and Energy Committee and the ranking House and
10 Senate minority member, the Commissioner of Department of Public Health or his designee, a
11 scientist who shall be knowledgeable about the health affects of windmills who shall be
12 appointed by the Governor, three epidemiologists one each who shall be appointed by the
13 Governor, the Senate President and the Speaker of the House, the CEO of the Barnstable County
14 Department of Public Health, the Executive Director or designee of the Berkshire Regional

15 Planning Commission, a municipal health agent to be appointed by the Massachusetts
16 Association of Boards of Health, a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society who shall
17 serve as chair, a member of the Massachusetts Municipal Association knowledgeable about the
18 health effects of wind turbines and three citizens of the Commonwealth living within 3000 feet
19 of an operating wind turbine one of each to be appointed by the Regional Planning Agencies of
20 the counties of Barnstable, Berkshire and Worcester.

21 Said study shall commence within 30 days of the enactment of this bill and said
22 Commission shall file a report no later than September 30, 2011. Said Commission shall study
23 all facets of health impacts of windmills including but not limited to the effects of low frequency
24 noise on humans and animals, sleep disorders, difficulty with equilibrium, headaches, childhood
25 night terrors, effects on the inner ear, learning and mood disorders, panic attacks, irritability,
26 concentration, and memory, noise, flicker, proximity, size of wind turbine, and wind conditions.
27 Said study shall make recommendations to the Great and General Court on legislation designed
28 to protect the health of the citizens of the Commonwealth including an acceptable distance to site
29 a wind turbine project from dwellings, and businesses, and from municipal, commercial and
30 residential property lines, an optimum wind turbine size and design that reduces or lessens health
31 impacts and, a recommendation as to whether wind turbine projects should be reviewed by local
32 boards of health as part of the permitting process and any other matter that may come before the
33 Study Commission that will enhance the protection of the public health.