

SENATE No. 128

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joan B. Lovely

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 adoption of the accompanying resolve:

Resolve relative to improving access to treatment for individuals with perinatal substance use disorder.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Joan B. Lovely

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Essex

SENATE No. 128

By Ms. Lovely, a petition (accompanied by resolve, Senate, No. 128) of Joan B. Lovely for legislation to improve access to treatment for individuals with perinatal substance use disorder. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 2864 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

Resolve relative to improving access to treatment for individuals with perinatal substance use disorder.

1 **Resolved**, that there shall be a special commission to evaluate the barriers to substance
2 use treatment in the perinatal period. The commission shall consist of: the secretary of health and
3 human services or a designee, who shall serve as chair; the commissioner of public health or a
4 designee, who shall have expertise in family and infant health; the commissioner of mental
5 health or a designee, who shall have expertise in maternal mental health and the intersection of
6 substance use disorder; the director of substance addiction services or a designee who shall have
7 experience with coordinating substance use treatment for women; the director of MassHealth or
8 a designee; 4 members appointed by the governor, 1 of whom shall be from the Massachusetts
9 Child Psychiatry Access Program for Moms, 1 of whom shall be from the Perinatal-Neonatal
10 Quality Improvement Network of Massachusetts, 1 of whom shall be from the Boston Medical
11 Center’s Project RESPECT and 1 of whom shall be a person with experience seeking treatment

12 in the perinatal period; 2 members of the senate, 1 of whom shall be appointed by the minority
13 leader; and 2 members of the house of representatives, 1 of whom shall be appointed by the
14 minority leader.

15 The special commission shall develop recommendations to remove barriers to treatment
16 for perinatal substance use disorder, including, but not limited to: (i) insurance coverage; (ii)
17 access to medication assisted treatment; (iii) access to mental health treatment; (iv) access to
18 treatment postpartum depression to facilitate parenting; (v) screening for substance use disorder;
19 and (vi) the integration of perinatal care and substance use treatment. In developing
20 recommendations, the special commission may coordinate and consult with other commissions
21 and entities, as appropriate.

22 The commission shall submit a report of its findings, along with its recommendations and
23 any proposed legislation , to the clerks of the house of representatives and the senate, the senate
24 and house committees on ways and means, the joint committee on mental health, substance use
25 and recovery and the joint committee on children, families and persons with disabilities not more
26 than 1 year from the date of the commission's first meeting.