

HOUSE No. 374

By Mr. Rushing of Boston, petition of Byron Rushing and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to the impact of the World Trade Organization and similar international agreements on the Commonwealth. Economic Development and Emerging Technologies.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Byron Rushing	Willie Mae Allen
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	Benjamin Swan
Douglas W. Petersen	Robert L. Hedlund
J. James Marzilli, Jr.	Elizabeth A. Malia
Matthew C. Patrick	Denise Provost
Gloria L. Fox	

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR THE CREATION OF A SPECIAL COMMISSION RELATIVE TO THE IMPACT ON THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OF THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION AND SIMILAR INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS.

1 *Resolved*, That a special commission is hereby established for
2 the purpose of evaluating the continuing impacts on state laws and
3 regulations by the World Trade Organization (WTO) and its
4 current agreements including, but not limited to, expansion of the
5 General Agreement on Trade in Services (GATS) and by similar
6 instruments such as the North American Free Trade Agreement
7 (NAFTA) and the proposed Free Trade Area of the Americas
8 (FTAA).

9 Said Commission shall report to the legislature and to our
10 federally elected officials and to the public on such impacts. The
11 commission shall recommend when the commonwealth may
12 support or withhold support for any proposed revisions or amend-
13 ments to WTO agreements, NAFTA agreements, GATS, FTAA,
14 and similar instruments.

15 Said commission shall consist of 3 members of the senate,
16 3 members of the house of representatives, the governor or his
17 designee, the attorney general or his designee, the treasurer of the
18 commonwealth or his designee, and 4 persons appointed by the
19 governor, one of whom shall be a representative of organized
20 labor, one of whom shall be a representative of the Massachusetts
21 Municipal Association, one of whom shall be a member of a grad-
22 uate faculty of economics of a private university in the common-
23 wealth, and one of whom shall be a member of a graduate faculty
24 of economics of the University of Massachusetts.