

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 466**

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By Mr. Jones of North Reading, petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for an investigation by a special commission (including members of the General Court) relative to improving the teacher licensure process. Education.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PETITION OF:

Bradley H. Jones, Jr.	Elizabeth A. Poirier
Mary S. Rogeness	Karyn E. Polito
George N. Peterson, Jr.	Richard J. Ross
John A. Lepper	Susan Williams Gifford
Viriato Manuel deMacedo	Donald F. Humason, Jr.
Paul K. Frost	Todd M. Smola
Robert S. Hargraves	

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In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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RESOLVE RELATIVE TO TEACHER LICENSURE.

1     *Resolved*, Notwithstanding any general or special law to the con-  
2 trary, there shall be a special commission to study and report on  
3 ways to improve the teacher licensure process. The commission  
4 shall consist of the commissioner of education; 3 members of the  
5 house of representatives, 2 of whom shall to be appointed by the  
6 speaker of the house, and 1 of whom shall be appointed by the  
7 minority leader of the house; 3 members of the senate, 2 of whom  
8 shall be appointed by the senate president, and 1 of whom shall be  
9 appointed by the senate minority leader; the chancellor of higher  
10 education; a representative of the Massachusetts Teacher Associa-  
11 tion; and a member appointed by the governor. The scope of the  
12 commission shall include, but shall not be limited to:— researching  
13 the current process of teacher licensure and ways to streamline the  
14 process of certifying qualified applicants; analyzing the effective-  
15 ness, clarity and accessibility of applications and certification via  
16 email and the internet; examining the feasibility of streamlining the  
17 application process for teachers who have previous extensive experi-  
18 ence in a public or a private school system; evaluating possible  
19 options to simplify or lessen current state teacher licensure regula-

20 tions; and examining the capacity of the department to process all  
21 teacher applications and certifications in a timely manner. The com-  
22 mission shall submit its report to the board of education, the joint  
23 committee on education, and the senate and house clerks no later  
24 than six months after the passage of this act.