

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1618

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By Mr. Naughton of Clinton, petition of Harold P. Naughton, Jr., for an investigation and study by a special commission (including members of the General Court) of the standards by which indigent counsel are appointed in the Commonwealth. The Judiciary.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

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RESOLVE PROVIDING FOR AN INVESTIGATION AND STUDY OF THE STANDARDS BY WHICH INDIGENT COUNSEL ARE APPOINTED IN THE COMMONWEALTH.

1     *Resolved*, That a special commission consisting of two mem-  
2     bers of the Judiciary Committee of the House of Representatives,  
3     two members of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, the Chair  
4     of the House Committee on Ways and Means or his designee, the  
5     Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means or his  
6     designee, one justice of the District Court department of the Trial  
7     Court, one criminal defense attorney, the President of the Massa-  
8     chusetts Academy of Criminal Defense Lawyers or his designee,  
9     the Executive Director of the Committee for Public Counsel Serv-  
10    ices or his designee, and the President of the Massachusetts Bar  
11    Association or his designee, is hereby established for the purpose  
12    of making an investigation and study of the standards by which  
13    indigent counsel are appointed in the Commonwealth, including  
14    but not limited to, the criteria by which justices determine eligi-  
15    bility for indigent counsel, the compensation of indigent counsel,  
16    and the financial status of any defendant under consideration for  
17    appointment of counsel. Said commission shall report to the  
18    General Court the results of its investigation and study, and its  
19    recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation neces-  
20    sary to carry such recommendations into effect by filing the same  
21    with the Clerk of the House of Representatives on or before the  
22    first Wednesday in November, two thousand and four.