

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 3405

By Mr. Jones of North Reading, petition of Bradley H. Jones, Jr., and others for the establishment of a special commission (including members of the General Court) to plan for the commemoration and recognition of the Abraham Lincoln bicentennial. Tourism, Arts and Cultural Development.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### PETITION OF:

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

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

### RESOLVE ESTABLISHING AN ABRAHAM LINCOLN BICENTENNIAL COMMISSION.

1 There is established a temporary commission for the celebration  
2 of the Abraham Lincoln bicentennial, hereafter referred to as the  
3 commission, consisting of 13 persons as follows: three appointed by  
4 the governor; three appointed by the speaker of the house of repre-  
5 sentatives; three appointed by the president of the senate; two by the  
6 house minority leader; and two by the senate minority leader. This  
7 commission shall cease to exist on May 1, 2010. Members shall be  
8 subject to the provisions of Chapter 268A as they apply to special  
9 state employees.

10 Members shall serve life terms. Vacancies in the membership of  
11 the commission shall be filled by the original appointing authority  
12 for the remainder of the term. The commission shall elect from  
13 among its members a chair and any other officers it deems neces-  
14 sary. The members of the commission shall receive no compensation  
15 for their services, but shall be reimbursed for any usual and cus-  
16 tomary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

17 The commission shall have the following duties:—

18 (1) study activities that may be carried out by the Commonwealth  
19 to determine whether the activities are fitting a proper to honor  
20 Abraham Lincoln on the occasion of the bicentennial anniversary of  
21 Lincoln's birth;

22 (2) recommend to the governor and the general court the activities  
23 that the commission considers most fitting and proper to honor  
24 Abraham Lincoln on such occasion, and the entity or entities in the  
25 commonwealth the commission considers most appropriate to carry  
26 out such activities;

27 (3) recommend to the governor and general court a plan to carry  
28 out said activities; and

29 (4) carry out other related activities in support for these duties.

30 The powers of the commission shall include but not be limited to  
31 the following:— to use such voluntary and uncompensated services  
32 of private individuals, agencies and organizations as may from time  
33 to time be offered and needed; to select an executive director and to  
34 acquire adequate staff to perform its duties, subject to appropriation;  
35 to enact bylaws for its own governance; and to hold regular, public  
36 meetings and to hold fact-finding hearings and other public forums  
37 as it may deem necessary.

38 The commission shall meet at the call of the chair. The commis-  
39 sion may request from all state agencies such information and assis-  
40 tance as the commission may require. The commission may accept  
41 and solicit funds, including any gifts, donations, grants, or bequests,  
42 or any federal funds for any of the purposes of this chapter. Such  
43 funds shall be deposited in a separate account with the state trea-  
44 surer, be received by said treasurer on behalf of the Commonwealth,  
45 and be expended by the commission in accordance with law.

46 The commission shall issue the following reports, in addition to  
47 any other interim reports deemed necessary by the chair:—

48 (1) Not later than February 28, 2008, the commission shall submit  
49 an interim report to the governor and general court, containing (i) a  
50 detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the commis-  
51 sion; (ii) the recommendations of the commission; and (iii) any other  
52 information that the commission considers to be appropriate; and

53 (2) Not later than April 30, 2010, the commission shall submit a  
54 final report to the governor and general court. The report shall con-

55 tain final statements, recommendations, and information deemed  
56 appropriate by the commission.