HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2765 FILED ON: 1/21/2011

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2374

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Alice Hanlon Peisch***

*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 passage of the accompanying:

An Act creating a special task force to make an investigation and study on issues related to the practice of defensive medicine.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: |
|---|---|
| *Alice Hanlon Peisch* | *14th Norfolk* |

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2765 FILED ON: 1/21/2011

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2374

By Ms. Peisch of Wellesley, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2374) of Alice Hanlon Peisch relative to the establishment of a special task force (including members of the General Court) to make an investigation of issues relating to the practice of defensive medicine in the Commonwealth. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
HOUSE
, NO. *2128* OF 2009-2010.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act creating a special task force to make an investigation and study on issues related to the practice of defensive medicine.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, there is hereby established a special task force to study issues relating to the practice of defensive medicine in the Commonwealth. The task force shall investigate and report on the practice of defensive medicine in the Commonwealth, including costs to the state and insurers as a result of this practice, negative consequences arising out of the practice of defensive medicine and the impact of defensive medicine on patient care. The task force shall also develop and recommend strategies to reduce or eliminate the impact of defensive medicine.

The task force shall be comprised of 15 members, including the House and Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Health Care, who shall serve as co-chairs of the task force; the House and Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Insurance; the House and Senate Chairs of the Joint Committee on Health Care Finance; a Senate member recommended by the Senate President; a Senate member of the minority party recommended by the minority leader of the Senate; a House member recommended by the Speaker of the House; a House member of the minority party recommended by the minority leader of the House; the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health or his designee; the dean of the University of Massachusetts Medical School; and one representative from each of the following organizations: the Massachusetts Hospital

17 Association; the Massachusetts Medical Society and the Massachusetts Association of Health
18 Plans. Said task force shall file a report of its study, including its recommendations and drafts of
19 any legislation, if necessary, with the clerks of the Senate and House of Representatives within
20 one year of the effective date of this act.