HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1748 FILED ON: 1/17/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2835

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John D. Keenan and James B. Eldridge

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 to establish a municipal record preservation commission.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
John D. Keenan	*7th Essex*
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	*12th Hampden*
Colleen M. Garry	*36th Middlesex*
Kate Hogan	*3rd Middlesex*

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By Representative Keenan of Salem and Senator Eldridge, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2835) of John D. Keenan, James B. Eldridge and others for legislation to establish a special commission (including members of the General Court) to study and create a plan for municipal records preservation. State Administration and Regulatory Oversight.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
HOUSE
, NO. *4053* OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act to establish a municipal record preservation commission.

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. There shall be a special commission to examine the status, maintenance, preservation and storage of municipal records in the Commonwealth.

SECTION 2. The commission shall examine and assess the current condition of essential municipal records and identify strategies and possible solutions to ameliorate the organization, storage and preservation of municipal records in the Commonwealth.

SECTION 3. The commission shall consist of the secretary of the commonwealth or his designee; a member of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate; a member of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Supervisor of Public Records; a representative from the Massachusetts Archives; a representative from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners; a representative from the Town Clerk's Association; a representative from the City Clerk's Association; and a representative from the Massachusetts Municipal Association. The representatives from the Massachusetts archives shall serve as the chairperson of the commission. The members of the commission shall be appointed not later 90 days after the effective date of this act and shall serve until the completion of the report.

16 SECTION 4. The commission may hold public hearings to assist in the collection and
17 evaluation of data and testimony.

18 SECTION 5. Any research, analysis or other staff support that the commission
19 reasonably requires shall be provided by the Massachusetts Archives.

20 SECTION 6. The commission shall prepare a written report detailing its findings and
21 recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry those
22 recommendations into effect. The commission shall submit its report to the governor, the
23 secretary of the commonwealth, the clerks of the Senate and House of Representatives, the chairs
24 of the house and senate committees on municipalities and regional government not later than 3
25 years after the effective date of this act.