HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 748 FILED ON: 1/19/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 623

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John W. Scibak

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 relative to the Massachusetts Alzheimer's project..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Cory Atkins	*14th Middlesex*
Ruth B. Balser	*12th Middlesex*
Katherine M. Clark	*Middlesex and Essex*
Randy Hunt	*5th Barnstable*
Frank I. Smizik	*15th Norfolk*
David B. Sullivan	*6th Bristol*
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	*12th Hampden*
Jonathan Hecht	*29th Middlesex*
Kevin G. Honan	*17th Suffolk*
Brian M. Ashe	*2nd Hampden*

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By Mr. Scibak of South Hadley, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 623) of Cory Atkins and others for legislation to establish in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services a Massachusetts Alzheimer's project. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to the Massachusetts Alzheimer's project..

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. Office of the Massachusetts Alzheimer's Project.

(a) There is established in the Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services the Massachusetts Alzheimer's Project (referred to in this Act as the ''Project'').

(b) The purpose of the project shall:

(1) accelerate the development of treatments that would prevent, halt, or reverse the course of Alzheimer's;

(2) be responsible for the creation and maintenance of an integrated state plan to overcome Alzheimer's;

(3) help to coordinate the health care and treatment of citizens with Alzheimer's;

(4) ensure the inclusion of ethnic and racial populations at higher risk for Alzheimer's or least likely to receive care, in clinical, research, and service efforts with the purpose of decreasing health disparities in Alzheimer's;

(5) coordinate with federal government bodies to integrate and inform the fight against Alzheimer's; and

(6) provide information and coordination of Alzheimer's research and services across all state agencies.

(c) Responsibilities of the Project. The Alzheimer's Project shall—

(i) oversee the creation and updating of the State plan described in subparagraph (d);

19 (ii) use discretionary authority to evaluate all state programs around Alzheimer's; and

20 (d) State Plan.—The Project shall carry out an annual assessment of the State's progress
21 in preparing for the escalating burden of Alzheimer's, including both implementation steps and
22 recommendations for priority actions based on the assessment.

23 SECTION 2. Advisory Council.

24 (1) There is established in the Project an Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research and
25 Treatment (referred to in this Act as the ''Advisory Council'').

26 (2) Membership.

27 (A) The Advisory Council shall be comprised of the following experts:

28 (i) A designee of the secretary of health and human services

29 (ii) A designee of the secretary of elder affairs.

30 (iii) A designee of the commissioner of the department of public health.

31 (iv) A designee of the secretary of veterans affairs.

32 (v) A designee of MassHealth

33 (vi) 2 Alzheimer patient advocates;

34 (vii) 2 Alzheimer caregivers;

35 (viii) 2 health care providers;

36 (ixv) 2 researchers with Alzheimer-related expertise in basic, translational, clinical, or
37 drug development science; and

38 (x) 2 voluntary health association representatives, including a state Alzheimer's disease
39 organization that funds research and has demonstrated experience in care and patient services,
40 and a State based advocacy organization that provides services to families and professionals,
41 including information and referral, support groups, care consultation, education, and safety
42 services.

43 (3) The Advisory Council shall meet quarterly and such meetings shall be open to the
44 public.

45 (4) The Advisory Council shall advise the Project on state Alzheimers policy.

46 (5) The Advisory Council shall provide to the Project an annual report for information
47 and recommendations on Alzheimers policy. The annual report shall include an evaluation of all

48 state funded efforts in Alzheimer's research, clinical care, institutional, and home- and
49 community-based programs and their outcomes; and an annually updated state plan.