

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1423**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Mark C. Montigny***

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*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

**An Act improving Hepatitis C screening.**

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Mark C. Montigny*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Second Bristol and Plymouth*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1423**

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By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1423) of Mark C. Montigny for legislation to improve Hepatitis C screening. Public Health.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
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An Act improving Hepatitis C screening.

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 4M½ of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (b) and inserting in place thereof  
3 the following subsection:-

4           (b) Every person over the age of 18 who receives health care services from a primary care  
5 provider shall be offered a hepatitis C screening test or a hepatitis C diagnostic test unless the  
6 provider believes that: (i) the person is being treated for a life threatening emergency; (ii) the  
7 person has previously been offered or has received a hepatitis screening test; or (iii) the person  
8 lacks capacity to consent to a hepatitis C screening test.

9           SECTION 2. Section 4M½ of chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby further amended  
10 by adding the following subsections:-

11 (c) The department shall make and from time to time revise regulations establishing in  
12 furtherance of the hepatitis C screening or hepatitis C diagnostic test requirements under  
13 subsection (b).

14 (d) Such regulations required under subsection (c) shall include: (i) the frequency with  
15 which a primary care provider must offer a hepatitis C screening test or hepatitis C diagnostic  
16 test; and (ii) any fines and/or penalties for non-compliance with such regulations.

17 SECTION 3. The department shall promulgate the initial regulations required under  
18 subsection (c) and (d) of section 4M<sup>1/2</sup> not later than 180 days following the effective date of this  
19 act.