

HOUSE No. 1194

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ruth B. Balsler

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 to improve public safety by facilitating access to addiction services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Bradford Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Martin J. Walsh</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Martha M. Walz</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>

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By Ms. Balsler of Newton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1194) of Ruth B. Balsler and others for legislation require county and state correctional facilities to provide substance abuse services to certain inmates. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act to improve public safety by facilitating access to addiction services.

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. Chapter 126 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting, after
2 section 27, the following new section:

3 Section 28. Substance Abuse Services.

4 The sheriff shall ensure that each person admitted to a county correctional facility,
5 including a house of correction or jail, shall be evaluated to identify his or her substance abuse
6 history, and that each person with such a history is provided with addiction services upon
7 request. The sheriff may make such treatment available by directly engaging qualified
8 providers of substance abuse services, through collaboration with other agencies, and by
9 utilizing volunteers from community recovery programs.

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 127 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2000 Official
11 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after section 17, the following new section:

12 Section 17A. Substance Abuse Services.

13 The Commissioner shall ensure that each person admitted to a state correctional
14 facility is evaluated to identify his or her substance abuse history, and that each person with
15 such a history is provided with addiction services upon request. The commissioner may make
16 such treatment available by directly engaging qualified providers of substance abuse services,
17 through collaboration with other agencies, and by utilizing volunteers from community recovery
18 programs.