

HOUSE No. 1751

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Angelo M. Scaccia

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 relative to providing appropriate medical care for persons in mental health facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Angelo M. Scaccia

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

14th Suffolk

HOUSE No. 1751

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1751) of Angelo M. Scaccia relative to medical care for persons in mental health facilities. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3208 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act relative to providing appropriate medical care for persons in mental health facilities.

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. The first paragraph of Section 4 of chapter 123 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking the words “physical examination by a physician licensed under the
3 provisions of chapter one hundred and twelve” and inserting in place thereof the words:—
4 "comprehensive physical examination by a physician licensed under the provisions of chapter
5 one hundred and twelve upon admission and".

6 SECTION 2. Said Section 4 of said chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby further
7 amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following two paragraphs:— During an
8 admission examination, periodic physical examination and on a continuing basis, the examining
9 physician shall identify all persons who require intermediate nursing services, skilled nursing
10 services, chronic disease hospital services or rehabilitation hospital services, as referred to in the

11 regulations promulgated by the department of transitional assistance, regardless of any person's
12 need to have such service provided in an institutional setting. Upon such identification, a report
13 of the same shall be made by such physician to the commissioner, who shall maintain statistical
14 records regarding such persons. The department of mental health shall provide an individual
15 service plan for every person so identified within thirty days of such identification, which plan
16 shall be written pursuant to the standards and procedures established in the rules and regulations
17 of said department, relative to the standards by which an individual may request and receive
18 mental health services and which shall note each of the person's physical health care needs. Each
19 service plan shall provide for services in the most age appropriate and disability appropriate
20 setting consistent with the mental health needs of each person.