

HOUSE No. 1279

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 preserve access to inpatient mental health services for individuals with mental illness.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| <i>Ruth B. Balsler</i> | <i>12th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/20/2011</i> |
| <i>Frank I. Smizik</i> | <i>15th Norfolk</i> | <i>2/1/2011</i> |
| <i>John P. Fresolo</i> | <i>16th Worcester</i> | <i>2/3/2011</i> |
| <i>Angelo M. Scaccia</i> | <i>14th Suffolk</i> | <i>2/3/2011</i> |

HOUSE No. 1279

By Ms. Balsler of Newton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1279) of Ruth B. Balsler and others relative to the penalty for assault and battery for certain mentally ill persons. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act to preserve access to inpatient mental health services for individuals with mental illness.

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

1 Chapter 265 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting at the end of Section
2 13I:

3 If the person alleged to have committed an assault or assault and battery was at the time
4 of the alleged incident: 1) transported or held subject to Mass. Gen. L. ch. 123, § 12, §§ 10 & 11
5 or §§ 7 & 8; or 2) determined by mental health providers to need psychiatric evaluation or
6 treatment, that person will not be charged under the provisions of this section but will be
7 provided with mental health evaluation and treatment in accordance with Chapter 123.