HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 1911 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1431

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Byron Rushing

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 increasing public safety by increasing access to addiction treatment.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Byron Rushing	*9th Suffolk*
Frank I. Smizik	*15th Norfolk*
Elizabeth A. Malia	*11th Suffolk*
William N. Brownsberger	
Gloria L. Fox	*7th Suffolk*
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*
Gale D. Candaras	
Benjamin Swan	*11th Hampden*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 1431

By Mr. Rushing of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1431) of Byron Rushing and others relative to increasing public safety by increasing access to addiction treatment. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. *1948* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act increasing public safety by increasing access to addiction treatment.

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 111E of the Massachusetts General Laws is hereby

2 amended in section 5 by adding, after line 34, the following:—

3 The director shall establish a program of assistance for the treatment of all substance
4 dependent persons who are not otherwise eligible for assistance under any other program and
5 who lack private health insurance coverage or have health insurance coverage which does not
6 cover all necessary treatment covered by this chapter. The department shall furnish such medical
7 assistance to each such substance dependent person residing in the commonwealth in accordance
8 with standards of eligibility established by the department.

9 The department shall ensure that all substance dependent persons who appear to be
10 eligible for assistance under this or any other chapter are assisted in enrolling for such
11 treatments.

12 The director shall promulgate and, from time to time, amend regulations detailing
13 eligibility criteria, services to be covered in conformity with appropriate standards of care, and
14 reimbursement policies.

15 The department shall conduct annual reports detailing the effectiveness and financial
16 impact of the programs that are funded pursuant to the requirements of this act, and submit those
17 studies to the Legislature no later than one year from the date the programs are implemented.
18 The evaluation studies shall include, but not be limited to, a study of the implementation process,
19 a review of lower incarcerations costs, reductions in crime, reduced prison and jail construction,
20 reduced welfare costs, reduced public safety costs, reduced health care costs, reduced costs of
21 homelessness services, the adequacy of funds appropriated, treatment measures on completion
22 rates and quality of life indicators, such as alcohol and drug used, employment, health, mental
23 health, and family and social supports and, other impacts or issues the department can identify.

24 In addition to studies to evaluate the effectiveness and financial impact of the programs
25 that are funded pursuant to the requirements of this act, the department shall produce an annual
26 report detailing the number and characteristics of participants served as a result of this act.