

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1535**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Harriett L. Stanley*

*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 maternity patients' rights.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Harriett L. Stanley</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>	<i>1/20/2011</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1535**

By Ms. Stanley of West Newbury, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1535) of Harriett L. Stanley relative to information provided to maternity patients regarding infant feeding. Public Health.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**

An Act relative to maternity patients' rights.

*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 70E of Chapter 111 of the General laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting, after the 7th paragraph, the following new paragraph:—

3           "Every maternity patient, at the time of admission, shall have the right to be informed and  
4 receive complete information and materials, support and counsel from an admitting hospital on  
5 all infant feeding choices. When a maternity patient chooses a method of infant feeding, said  
6 choice shall be supported and counseled. Health care providers and maternity patients shall have  
7 access to infant feeding materials and educational information, including, but not limited to,  
8 breast pumps, feeding supplies and bottles, infant formula samples and preparation instructions.  
9 Further, sample formula and formula equipment shall be distributed to a breastfeeding maternity  
10 patient only when an individual physician order is written or on request of the maternity patient."