

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1809

---

## 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:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/15/2013</i>
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>	
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/30/2013</i>
<i>Gloria L. Fox</i>	<i>7th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/1/2013</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>	
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 1809

---

By Mr. Rushing of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1809) 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. 1431 OF 2011-2012.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen  
\_\_\_\_\_

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.