HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2265 FILED ON: 1/17/2013

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1813

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 the civil commitment of mentally ill persons to Bridgewater State Hospital.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Angelo M. Scaccia	*14th Suffolk*

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HOUSE . . . . . No. 1813

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1813) of Angelo M. Scaccia relative to the civil commitment of mentally ill persons to Bridgewater State Hospital. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act relative to the civil commitment of mentally ill persons to Bridgewater State Hospital.

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

SECTION 1. Section 1 of chapter 123 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following definition: -

"Place of Detention", an institution, or any part thereof, for the detention or confinement of persons accused or convicted of crime, including, but not limited to, jails, prisons, houses of correction and correctional institutions. A place of detention shall not include Bridgewater State Hospital or the Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center.

SECTION 2. Section 7 (a) of said chapter 123, of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence:-

The medical director of Bridgewater State Hospital may petition the Brockton District Court for the commitment to a facility designated by the department and retention of any patient said medical director determines that the failure to hospitalize would create a likelihood of serious harm by reason of mental illness.

SECTION 3. Section 7 (b) of said chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. Section 13 of said chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 5. Section 14 of said chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking out the following words: -

"unless within said period he files a petition under sections seven and eight for the further commitment of the person to the Bridgewater state hospital"