

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1168**

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**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:
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>

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By Ms. Balsler of Newton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1168) of Ruth B. Balsler and others relative to the psychiatric evaluation and treatment of certain mentally ill persons alleged to have committed assault or assault and battery. The Judiciary.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1193 OF 2013-2014.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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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.