

HOUSE No. 1789

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Diana DiZoglio

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 substance abuse accountable care organizations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>1/15/2015</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>	<i>10/1/2019</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>	<i>10/1/2019</i>

HOUSE No. 1789

By Ms. DiZoglio of Methuen, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1789) of Diana DiZoglio, Frank A. Moran and Marcos A. Devers relative to substance abuse accountable care organizations. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to substance abuse accountable care organizations.

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 6D of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 19. (a) For the purposes of this section the following terms, shall unless the
3 context clearly appears otherwise, have the following meanings:-

4 “Substance use disorder accountable care organization”, a provider organization certified
5 under section 15 or other organization engaged in the treatment or management of substance use
6 disorder.

7 “Recovery center”, a halfway house, treatment unit, detoxification facility, facility
8 licensed pursuant to section 7 of chapter 111E or a residence, commonly known as a sober home,
9 that provides or advertises as providing, an alcohol and drug free environment for people
10 recovering from substance use disorders.

11 “Recovery program”, any program or services delivered by or through a substance use
12 disorder accountable care organization at a recovery center.

13 “Substance use disorder”, the range of conditions associated with alcohol, tobacco and
14 other drug use, including substance dependence, abuse and withdrawal as defined by the
15 American Psychiatric Association.

16 (b) The commission shall facilitate and coordinate the creation of recovery programs
17 provided by a substance use disorder accountable care organization, for the purpose of ensuring
18 and improving access to appropriate mental health and substance use disorder services
19 throughout the commonwealth by providing a platform for the organization of all relevant health,
20 mental health, substance abuse, and other community entities, and by providing a mechanism to
21 use and channel financial and other resources efficiently and effectively.

22 (c) The commission shall identify unmet community needs that may be coordinated
23 or provided by a substance use disorder accountable care organization through a recovery
24 program, including, but not limited to, the following:

25 (1) waiting lists in community mental health and substance abuse services;

26 (2) hospital emergency department use by persons with mental and substance use
27 illnesses; including volume, length of stay, and challenges associated with obtaining psychiatric
28 assessment;

29 (3) difficulty obtaining admission to inpatient facilities, and reasons therefore;

30 (4) availability of primary care providers in the community;

31 (5) availability of psychiatrists and mental health professionals; and

32 (6) transportation issues.

33 (d) The commission shall develop a plan to address community needs through substance
34 use disorder accountable care organizations, including a specific timeline for implementation of
35 specific objectives and establishment of evaluation measures. The comprehensive plan shall
36 include the complete continuum of behavioral health services, including, but not limited to, the
37 following:

38 (1) prevention;

39 (2) client assessment and diagnosis;

40 (3) an array of outpatient behavioral health services;

41 (4) case coordination;

42 (5) crisis and emergency services; and

43 (6) treatment, including inpatient psychiatric services in public and private hospitals.

44 (e) A substance use disorder accountable care organization shall manage all the high risk
45 prescribed medicines that are in use within alcohol and drug free housing. Prescribed
46 medications shall only be accessible and administered by licensed clinical personnel. The
47 commission shall establish rules and regulations for the classification of high risk prescribed
48 medications and the use of individualized locked boxes for such medications to be stored in a
49 locked closet or office in a recovery center.