HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2483 FILED ON: 1/15/2015

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2029

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James J. O'Day and Brian A. Joyce

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 regarding notification of patient observations status.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
James J. O'Day	*14th Worcester*	*1/15/2015*
Brian A. Joyce	*Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth*	*2/4/2015*
Daniel M. Donahue	*16th Worcester*	*10/10/2019*
Alan Silvia	*7th Bristol*	*10/10/2019*
Denise Provost	*27th Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
RoseLee Vincent	*16th Suffolk*	*10/10/2019*
Chris Walsh	*6th Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
Michael O. Moore	*Second Worcester*	*10/10/2019*
Anne M. Gobi	*Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
Mary S. Keefe	*15th Worcester*	*10/10/2019*
Bruce E. Tarr	*First Essex and Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*	*10/10/2019*
Carolyn C. Dykema	*8th Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
Carmine L. Gentile	*13th Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	*26th Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
Jay D. Livingstone	*8th Suffolk*	*10/10/2019*

John J. Mahoney	*13th Worcester*	*10/10/2019*
Marc R. Pacheco	*First Plymouth and Bristol*	*10/10/2019*
Paul A. Schmid, III	*8th Bristol*	*10/10/2019*
Danielle W. Gregoire	*4th Middlesex*	*10/10/2019*
Carole A. Fiola	*6th Bristol*	*10/10/2019*
Michael J. Moran	*18th Suffolk*	*10/10/2019*

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By Representative O'Day of West Boylston and Senator Joyce, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2029) of James J. O'Day, Brian A. Joyce and others that hospitals be required to provide certain patients in inpatient or observation status oral and written notice of such placement. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act regarding notification of patient observations status.

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

Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 51J the following section:

Section 51K. (a) Each hospital shall provide each patient that the hospital places in inpatient or observation status oral and written notice of such placement not later than twenty-four hours after such placement, unless such patient has been discharged or has left the hospital prior to the expiration of the twenty-four hour period. Such oral and written notices shall include

(1) a statement whether the patient has been admitted to the hospital as an inpatient or is in observation status;

(2) a statement that observation status may affect the patient's Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance coverage for

(A) hospital services, including medication and pharmaceutical supplies; or

(B) skilled nursing facility care following the patient's discharge; and

(3) a recommendation that the patient contact his or insurance plan to better understand the implications of being placed in observation status.

(b) The written notice described in subsection (a) of the section shall be signed and dated by the patient receiving the notice or such patient's legal or other authorized representative.

(c) The Department shall promulgate such regulations as are necessary to implement this section.