

HOUSE No. 972

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Tackey Chan

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 reduce liability of acute hospitals to Health Safety Net Trust Fund.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| <i>Tackey Chan</i> | <i>2nd Norfolk</i> | <i>1/16/2015</i> |

HOUSE No. 972

By Mr. Chan of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 972) of Tackey Chan for legislation to reduce the liability of acute hospitals relative to the Health Safety Net Trust Fund. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to reduce liability of acute hospitals to Health Safety Net Trust Fund.

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. Subsection (b) of section 65 of Chapter 118E, as appearing in the 2012
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the first clause and inserting in place thereof the
3 following clause:--

4 (i) to administer the Health Safety Net Trust Fund, established under section 66, and to
5 require payments to the fund consistent with surcharge payors' liability to the fund, as
6 determined under section 68, and any further regulations promulgated by the office;

7 SECTION 2. Subsection (b) of section 66 of said Chapter 118E, as amended by section
8 98 of chapter 38 of the acts of 2013, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence and
9 inserting in place thereof the following sentence:--

10

11 The fund shall consist of: (i) all amounts paid by surcharge payors under section 68; (ii)
12 all appropriations for the purpose of payments to acute hospitals or community health centers for
13 health services provided to uninsured and underinsured residents; (iii) any transfers from the
14 Commonwealth Care Trust Fund, established under section 2000 of chapter 29; and (iv) all
15 property and securities acquired by and through the use of monies belonging to the fund and all
16 interest thereon.

17 SECTION 3. Section 67 of said Chapter 118E, as amended by section 99 of chapter 38 of
18 the acts of 2013, is hereby repealed.

19 SECTION 4. Subsection (b) of section 69 of Chapter 118 of the General Laws, as
20 appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, shall be amended by striking the second sentence and
21 inserting in place thereof the following two sentences:

22 If a shortfall in revenue exists in any fund fiscal year to cover projected costs for
23 reimbursement of health services, the office shall allocate the financial responsibility for such
24 shortfall among the surcharge payors in proportion to each surcharge payor's required surcharge
25 payments in that fund fiscal year. The office may promulgate regulations consistent with this
26 provision.”