

SENATE No. 1232

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Daniel A. Wolf

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 promoting access to accurate medical information.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Daniel A. Wolf	Cape and Islands
David Paul Linsky	5th Middlesex
Jason M. Lewis	Fifth Middlesex
Michael O. Moore	Second Worcester
Marjorie C. Decker	25th Middlesex
Mary S. Keefe	15th Worcester
Cynthia S. Creem	First Middlesex and Norfolk
Barbara A. L'Italien	Second Essex and Middlesex
Steven Ultrino	33rd Middlesex
Sean Garballey	23rd Middlesex
Brian A. Joyce	Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth
Elizabeth A. Malia	11th Suffolk
Danielle W. Gregoire	4th Middlesex
Anne M. Gobi	Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex
Brian R. Mannel	2nd Barnstable
William N. Brownsberger	Second Suffolk and Middlesex
Michelle M. DuBois	10th Plymouth

<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

SENATE No. 1232

By Mr. Wolf, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1232) of Daniel A. Wolf, David Paul Linsky, Jason M. Lewis, Michael O. Moore and other members of the General Court for legislation to promote access to accurate medical information. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act promoting access to accurate medical information.

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. Chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following section:-

3 Section 51K. (a) As used in this section the following word shall, unless the context
4 clearly requires otherwise, have the following meaning:-

5 “Medically accurate”, information that is verified or supported by the weight of current
6 scientific evidence, derived from research conducted in compliance with accepted scientific
7 methods, and if available, published in peer-reviewed journals; and recognized as accurate,
8 objective and complete by mainstream professional medical organizations such as the American
9 Medical Association, the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American
10 Public Health Association, and American Academy of Pediatrics; government agencies such as
11 the Center for Disease Control, the Food and Drug Administration, the National Cancer Institute,
12 the American Psychological Association, and the National Institute of Health; and scientific

13 advisory groups such as the Institute of Medicine and the Advisory Committee on Immunization
14 Practices.

15 (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law or rule to the contrary, every contract
16 entered into by the Commonwealth for the provision of reproductive health services shall require
17 the provider to provide all clients with medically accurate, comprehensive, non-directive
18 reproductive health care information, including but not limited to family planning, birth control,
19 pregnancy, and post-partum care.

20 (c) The Commonwealth, through its agencies or any organization that receives funding
21 from the Commonwealth, shall only refer clients seeking information regarding reproductive
22 health services to a clinic or entity that counsels on, provides information about, or performs any
23 reproductive-health counseling or service if that entity provides all clients with medically
24 accurate, comprehensive, non-directive reproductive health care information, including but not
25 limited to family planning, birth control, pregnancy, and post-partum care.