

**SENATE . . . . . No. 363**

---

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Mark C. Montigny*

*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 establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Mark C. Montigny*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Second Bristol and Plymouth*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 363**

---

By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 363) of Mark C. Montigny for legislation to establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities. Elder Affairs.

---

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 298 OF 2013-2014.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities.

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

1           The Department of Public Health shall establish minimum staffing requirements at  
2 Skilled Nursing Care Facilities and for all level I, II and III long-term care facilities (as defined  
3 at 105 CMR 150.001). Working with 1199SEIU and other appropriate stakeholders, the  
4 Department shall develop amendments to the existing Nursing Services regulations (105 CMR  
5 150.007) that ensure these facilities employ an adequate number of nurses, certified nurse  
6 assistants, and other staff to both meet all patient needs and ensure that sufficient staff is working  
7 at any given time to safely meet those needs. Said amended regulations shall include specific  
8 standards and direct-care staff-to-patient ratios to ensure consistent delivery of quality care in a  
9 safe and sanitary facility. The Department shall issue public recommendations on these issues  
10 no later than six months following final passage of this Act.