

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1234**

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**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 strengthen patients' rights.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2017</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>

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By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1234) of Mark C. Montigny, James R. Miceli and Keiko M. Orrall for legislation to strengthen patients' rights. Public Health.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
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An Act to strengthen patients' rights.

*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 70E of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2014 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the fourth paragraph the following new paragraph:-

3           Every patient, upon placement into either inpatient or observation status, shall receive  
4 complete information from an admitting hospital regarding (i) whether such patient has been  
5 admitted to the hospital as an inpatient or is in observation status; (ii) a statement that  
6 observation status may affect the patient’s Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance coverage for  
7 hospital services, medication, and skilled nursing facility care following discharge; and (iii) a  
8 recommendation that the patient contact his or her insurance plan to better understand the  
9 implications of being placed in observation status versus inpatient admission. Such notice shall  
10 be in addition to any requirements set forth by Medicare under Public Law 114-42.