

HOUSE No. 1955

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Jack Patrick Lewis

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 improving Hepatitis C screening.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | DATE ADDED: |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i> | <i>7th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/18/2019</i> |
| <i>Brian M. Ashe</i> | <i>2nd Hampden</i> | <i>1/21/2019</i> |
| <i>Mike Connolly</i> | <i>26th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Julian Cyr</i> | <i>Cape and Islands</i> | <i>1/18/2019</i> |
| <i>Mindy Domb</i> | <i>3rd Hampshire</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Nika C. Elugardo</i> | <i>15th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/29/2019</i> |
| <i>Sean Garballey</i> | <i>23rd Middlesex</i> | <i>1/24/2019</i> |
| <i>Carlos González</i> | <i>10th Hampden</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i> | <i>2nd Bristol</i> | <i>2/2/2019</i> |
| <i>Jonathan Hecht</i> | <i>29th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Natalie M. Higgins</i> | <i>4th Worcester</i> | <i>1/27/2019</i> |
| <i>Kate Hogan</i> | <i>3rd Middlesex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Louis L. Kafka</i> | <i>8th Norfolk</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i> | <i>4th Plymouth</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Kay Khan</i> | <i>11th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i> | <i>17th Worcester</i> | <i>1/23/2019</i> |
| <i>Jason M. Lewis</i> | <i>Fifth Middlesex</i> | <i>1/23/2019</i> |

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>David Paul Linsky</i> | <i>5th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i> | <i>11th Suffolk</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Paul McMurtry</i> | <i>11th Norfolk</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Christina A. Minicucci</i> | <i>14th Essex</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Mark C. Montigny</i> | <i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Sarah K. Peake</i> | <i>4th Barnstable</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Denise Provost</i> | <i>27th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i> | <i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i> | <i>6th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/21/2019</i> |
| <i>David M. Rogers</i> | <i>24th Middlesex</i> | <i>1/30/2019</i> |
| <i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i> | <i>1st Hampshire</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |
| <i>Jon Santiago</i> | <i>9th Suffolk</i> | <i>1/31/2019</i> |
| <i>Steven Ultrino</i> | <i>33rd Middlesex</i> | <i>2/1/2019</i> |

HOUSE No. 1955

By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1955) of Jack Patrick Lewis and others relative to improving Hepatitis C screening. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act improving Hepatitis C screening.

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. Section 4M½ of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (b) and inserting in place thereof
3 the following subsection:-

4 (b) Every person over the age of 18 who receives health care services from a primary care
5 provider shall be offered a hepatitis C screening test or a Hepatitis C diagnostic test unless the
6 provider believes that: (i) the person is being treated for a life threatening emergency; (ii) the
7 person has previously been offered or has received a hepatitis screening test; or (iii) the person
8 lacks capacity to consent to a hepatitis C screening test.

9 SECTION 2. Section 4M½ of chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby further amended
10 by adding the following subsections:-

11 (c) The Department shall make and from time to time revise regulations establishing in
12 furtherance of the hepatitis C screening or hepatitis C diagnostic test requirements under
13 subsection (b).

14 (d) Such regulations required under subsection (c) shall include: (i) the frequency with
15 which a primary care provider must offer a hepatitis C screening test or hepatitis C diagnostic
16 test; and (ii) fines and/or penalties for non-compliance with such regulations.

17 (e) The Department shall promulgate the initial regulations required under subsection (c)
18 and (d) not later than October 1, 2019