HOUSE . . . . No. 1518

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Liz Miranda

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 facilitate re-entry.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Liz Miranda	5th Suffolk	1/17/2019
Mayor Martin J. Walsh		1/18/2019
Brian M. Ashe	2nd Hampden	1/31/2019
Joseph A. Boncore	First Suffolk and Middlesex	2/1/2019
Michelle L. Ciccolo	15th Middlesex	2/1/2019
Mike Connolly	26th Middlesex	2/1/2019
Daniel R. Cullinane	12th Suffolk	2/1/2019
Marjorie C. Decker	25th Middlesex	2/1/2019
Mindy Domb	3rd Hampshire	1/30/2019
Nika C. Elugardo	15th Suffolk	1/30/2019
James K. Hawkins	2nd Bristol	2/2/2019
Natalie M. Higgins	4th Worcester	2/1/2019
Russell E. Holmes	6th Suffolk	2/1/2019
Mary S. Keefe	15th Worcester	2/1/2019
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk	1/30/2019
Michael O. Moore	Second Worcester	2/1/2019
Sarah K. Peake	4th Barnstable	1/29/2019
Daniel J. Ryan	2nd Suffolk	1/31/2019

Jon Santiago	*9th Suffolk*	*2/1/2019*
Chynah Tyler	*7th Suffolk*	*2/1/2019*

HOUSE . . . . No. 1518

By Ms. Miranda of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1518) of Liz Miranda and others relative to discharging individuals released from incarceration or residential treatment into homelessness or emergency shelters. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

_____

An Act to facilitate re-entry.

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. The Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Executive Office of

2   Housing and Economic Development, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the

3   Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Youth Services, the

4   Department of Transitional Assistance, the Department of Developmental Services, the

5   Department of Mental Health, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of

6   Public Health, the Department of Correction, and any other office or agency recommended by

7   the Governor shall develop a memorandum of understanding setting forth an action plan to avoid

8   discharges of individuals released from incarceration or residential treatment into homelessness

9   or emergency shelter. The memorandum and plan may include enhanced comprehensive

10   institutional discharge planning, increased availability of community-based supportive services,

11   that may include but need not be limited to, resident service coordination, housing support teams

12   and other models to link individuals with any services necessary to maintain housing stability.

13   Further, said memorandum of understanding shall identify and resolve barriers to

14   comprehensive institutional discharge planning and community-based services in order to

15   prevent discharges of individuals into homelessness or emergency shelters. Parties to the

16   memorandum of understanding shall establish model comprehensive institutional discharge

17   housing plan and identify other resources as may be necessary or helpful in furthering the goals

18   of the memorandum of understanding or subsequent agreement. The parties to this memorandum

19   of understanding shall amend rules and regulations wherever necessary or appropriate to carry

20   the objectives of the executed memorandum of understanding or subsequent agreement into

21   effect. The memorandum of understanding, along with any legislative or budgetary action

22   recommended by the parties, shall be filed with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the Joint

23   Committee on Housing, the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, the Joint Committee on Children,

24   Families and Persons with Disabilities, the Joint Committee on the Judiciary, the Senate

25   Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on Ways and Means no later than

26   January 1, 2020.