

SENATE No. 1303

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 improving Hepatitis C screening.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/18/2019</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>1/28/2019</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>William N. Brownsberger</i>	<i>Second Suffolk and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/8/2019</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/14/2019</i>
<i>David F. DeCoste</i>	<i>5th Plymouth</i>	<i>3/20/2019</i>

SENATE No. 1303

By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1303) of Mark C. Montigny, Jack Patrick Lewis, Brian M. Ashe, Jason M. Lewis and other members of the General Court for legislation to improve 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 4M¹/₂ 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 4M¹/₂ 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.