

SENATE No. 1461

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Bruce E. Tarr

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 relative to promote referral to treatment.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Bruce E. Tarr

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Essex and Middlesex

SENATE No. 1461

By Mr. Tarr, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1461) of Bruce E. Tarr for legislation relative to promote referral to treatment for substance addiction. Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to promote referral to treatment.

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 secretary of public safety, in consultation with the secretary of health
2 and human services and the Massachusetts district attorney association, shall develop, maintain,
3 and promulgate guidance for referral to treatment by the department of state police and
4 municipal police departments for individuals presenting at department facilities with a substance
5 addiction, provided that they are not engaged in the illegal trafficking of controlled substances.

6 SECTION 2. The secretary of public safety, in consultation with the secretary of health
7 and human services and the Massachusetts district attorney association, shall conduct a study of
8 the mechanisms, resources, and legal and regulatory frameworks, if necessary, to implement a
9 comprehensive system of referral to treatment for those with substance addictions presenting
10 themselves at state or municipal police facilities. Said study shall include, but not be limited to,
11 the resources and costs necessary to implement and maintain such a system, costs currently being
12 sustained by local police departments engaged in such programs, the current availability of beds

13 and other treatment resources, and the projected need for such resources to implement a
14 comprehensive statewide system, and any applicable laws, rules, and/or regulations necessary to
15 such a system.

16 The results of said study, together with any legislative recommendations, shall be filed
17 with the joint committee on public safety and homeland security, and the clerks of the house and
18 senate, not later than twelve months following the passage of this act.