

SENATE No. 167

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 prevent unscrupulous medical debt recovery practices.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Mark C. Montigny

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Bristol and Plymouth

SENATE No. 167

By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 167) of Mark C. Montigny for legislation to protect hospital and community health center patients. Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1235 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to prevent unscrupulous medical debt recovery practices.

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. Chapter 235, as so appearing in the 2016 General Laws, is hereby amended
2 by adding the following new section after section 34A:-

3 Section 34B. The department of public health shall adopt regulations prohibiting a
4 hospital or community health center or an agent of a hospital or community health center from
5 seeking legal execution against the personal residence up to the statutory amount provided for in
6 chapter 188 of the general laws, irrespective of whether a patient or a guarantor for a patient has
7 recorded a declaration of homestead, or the primary motor vehicle of a patient or a guarantor for
8 a patient.