

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1262**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Patricia A. Duffy*

*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 preserving access to essential health services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>1/28/2021</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2021</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>	<i>2/3/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/18/2021</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>
<i>Michael P. Kushmerek</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>7th Hampden</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Peter Capano</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>3/9/2021</i>
<i>Erika Uyterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>4/28/2021</i>
<i>Marc R. Pacheco</i>	<i>First Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>5/10/2021</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>7/22/2021</i>

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By Ms. Duffy of Holyoke, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1262) of Patricia A. Duffy and others relative to the closing of hospital essential services. Health Care Financing.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
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An Act preserving access to essential health services.

*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 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is  
2 hereby amended by adding at the end of subsection (4) of section 51G the following:-

3           To preserve access to essential services, hospitals may not close any beds, units or  
4 facilities for the duration of any declared state of emergency pertaining to health care.