

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 179**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Michael J. Soter***

*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 further defining eligibility for medical use marijuana.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>1/14/2021</i>
<i>Stephen Mandile</i>	<i>27 Henry St, Uxbridge, Ma</i>	<i>1/20/2021</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/22/2021</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/22/2021</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>2/23/2021</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/25/2021</i>
<i>Peter Capano</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Ryan C. Fattman</i>	<i>Worcester and Norfolk</i>	<i>6/30/2021</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 179**

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By Mr. Soter of Bellingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 179) of Michael J. Soter and others for legislation to further regulate eligibility for medical use marijuana. Cannabis Policy.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 4274 OF 2019-2020.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court  
(2021-2022)**  
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An Act further defining eligibility for medical use marijuana.

*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 1 of chapter 94I of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the definition of “Debilitating medical  
3 condition” and inserting in place thereof the following definition:-

4           “Debilitating medical condition”, cancer, glaucoma, positive status for human  
5 immunodeficiency virus, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, hepatitis C, amyotrophic lateral  
6 sclerosis, Crohn's disease, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, post-traumatic stress disorder,  
7 opioid use disorder, and other conditions as determined in writing by a registered qualifying  
8 patient's registered healthcare professional.

9           SECTION 2. Said section 1 of said chapter 94I of the General Laws, as so appearing, is  
10 hereby further amended by striking out the definition of “Qualifying patient” and inserting in  
11 place thereof the following definition:-

12           “Qualifying patient”, (1) a person who has been diagnosed by a registered healthcare  
13 professional as having a debilitating medical condition, or (2) a veteran receiving their health  
14 care at a federal Veterans Administration facility provides their Veterans Administration award  
15 letter indicating an existing disability to the commission; provided, that a such a veteran shall not  
16 be required to receive a diagnosis from a registered healthcare professional.