

SENATE No. 1429

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

James B. Eldridge

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 in a state of emergency.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------|
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</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>Walter F. Timilty</i> | <i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i> | <i>3/9/2021</i> |
| <i>Adam Gomez</i> | <i>Hampden</i> | <i>3/30/2021</i> |
| <i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i> | <i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i> | <i>3/31/2021</i> |
| <i>John J. Cronin</i> | <i>Worcester and Middlesex</i> | <i>4/9/2021</i> |
| <i>Paul R. Feeney</i> | <i>Bristol and Norfolk</i> | <i>4/12/2021</i> |
| <i>Erika Uyterhoeven</i> | <i>27th Middlesex</i> | <i>4/29/2021</i> |

SENATE No. 1429

By Mr. Eldridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1429) of James B. Eldridge, Carol A. Doherty, Michael D. Brady, Walter F. Timilty and other members of the General Court for legislation to preserve access to essential health services in a state of emergency. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act preserving access to essential health services in a state of emergency.

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,
2 is 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.