

HOUSE No. 1241

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Lindsay N. Sabadosa

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 improve discharge opportunities from acute care facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>3/4/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 1241

By Representative Sabadosa of Northampton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1241) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa and James B. Eldridge for legislation to improve discharge opportunities from acute care facilities. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act to improve discharge opportunities from acute care facilities.

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 51 D of chapter 111 of the general laws as appearing in the 2020
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended, by inserting after item 7 of the requirements for a discharge
3 plan, the following:

4 No person shall be discharged from an acute care facility licensed pursuant to this chapter
5 without a review of post-acute care options presented in writing to the patient or the patient’s
6 representative, not less than twenty-four hours prior to discharge Said review of post-acute care
7 options shall give the highest priority to returning the patient to his or her residence or
8 community of record, with appropriate service, if needed. In any case, where it is not deemed
9 possible, a responsible official of the acute care facility shall provide a written explanation and
10 certify said explanation as true and correct, pursuant to the provisions of section 5A of chapter
11 12 of the general laws.

12 SECTION 2. Said section 51, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word
13 “Medicare,” wherever it appears, the following: “MassHealth, or private commercial insurance
14 licensed in Massachusetts.”