

HOUSE No. 2559

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marcus S. Vaughn

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 protect a patient’s right to a support person at health care facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Marcus S. Vaughn</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>	<i>1/16/2025</i>
<i>Sue Chester</i>		<i>1/16/2025</i>

HOUSE No. 2559

By Representative Vaughn of Wrentham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2559) of Marcus S. Vaughn and Sue Chester relative to patients' rights to a support person at health care facilities. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**

An Act to protect a patient’s right to a support person at health 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 70E of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after subsection (o) the following subsection:-

3 (p) to a person of their choosing to serve as a support person. The support person may be
4 present with the patient 24 hours a day in patient-accessible areas of the health care facility or
5 provider’s office to accompany the patient while the patient is receiving inpatient or outpatient
6 treatment or is consulting with their health care provider. A health care facility may temporarily
7 restrict the presence of the support person during surgeries or emergency interventions. Health
8 care facilities shall not require the support person to receive any vaccination as a condition for
9 access to the patient.