

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1520**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Peter J. Durant***

*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:	
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>Worcester and Hampshire</i>	
<i>Susan E. Chester</i>		
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/27/2025</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 1520**

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By Mr. Durant, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1520) of Peter J. Durant, Susan E. Chester , and Bruce E. Tarr for legislation to protect a patient’s right to a support person at health care facilities. Public Health.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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