

**SENATE . . . . . No. 169**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Jacob R. Oliveira***

*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 relative to health care quality for children and youth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Jacob R. Oliveira</i>	<i>Hampden, Hampshire and Worcester</i>	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>6/12/2025</i>

**SENATE . . . . . No. 169**

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By Mr. Oliveira, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 169) of Jacob R. Oliveira for legislation relative to health care quality for children and youth in custody of the Department of Youth Services. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

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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 relative to health care quality for children and youth.

*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 2 of chapter 18A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “committed”, in line 10, the  
3 following sentence:-

4 Physical health and mental health services shall meet or exceed current pediatric  
5 community level standards of care, such as set by the American Academy of Pediatrics, which  
6 shall include, but not be limited to, preventative health care, health promotion, and continuity of  
7 health care provided before and after release.

8 SECTION 2. Section 6 of said chapter 18A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2024  
9 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “counselor program”, in line 6,  
10 the following sentence:-

11           It shall further be responsible for monitoring and enforcement of physical and mental  
12 health care contracts to improve medical care access and quality for children in the care and  
13 custody of the department.