

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Robyn K. Kennedy

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 providing appropriate care for certain populations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Robyn K. Kennedy

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Worcester

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1258 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing appropriate care for certain populations.

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 1 of Chapter 123 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following definition:-

3 “Forensic Unit”, a physically separate unit from other units. These units shall have in
4 place restrictions consistent with those present when an individual is incarcerated. These units
5 shall include appropriate staffing levels to address the needs of the patient population and who
6 have undergone specialized training to work effectively with this patient population. The
7 physical environment of the unit shall be conducive to meeting the needs of the patient
8 population.

9 SECTION 2. Section 15 of said Chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
10 adding the following paragraph:-

11 (g) any individual admitted to a facility under the conditions described in paragraph (b) or
12 paragraph (e) shall be initially admitted to a forensic unit.

13 SECTION 3. Section 16 of said Chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
14 adding the following paragraph:-

15 (g) any individual admitted to a facility under the conditions described in paragraph (a),
16 (c) or paragraph (e) shall be initially admitted to a forensic unit.

17 SECTION 4. Section 18 of said Chapter 123, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
18 adding the following paragraph:-

19 (e) any individual admitted to a facility under the conditions described in paragraph (a) or
20 paragraph (b) shall be initially admitted to a forensic unit.