

## Committee on Public Health

### Bill Summary

<b>Bill No.</b>	H4048
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Representative Shirley B. Arriaga
<b>Title:</b>	<i>An Act to reduce infection rate post surgery</i>
<b>Committee:</b>	Public Health
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	July 10, 2025
<b>Similar Matters:</b>	None
<b>Prior History:</b>	New File
<b>Reporting Deadline:</b>	September 8, 2025

#### Current Law:

- **M.G.L. Chapter 111** pertains to public health

#### Summary:

This bill ensures that hospital staff and visitors in surgical intensive care units are required to wear medical or surgical masks in rooms or areas where patients are present.

This bill amends M.G.L. Chapter 111 by inserting a new section: Section 231A.

Subsection (a) defines the term “surgical intensive care unit” as an intensive care unit, as defined in 105 CMR 130.020, within a hospital operated by the commonwealth, that specializes in post-surgical care.

Subsection (b) states that notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, hospital staff and visitors in surgical intensive care units will be required to wear medical or surgical masks in rooms or areas where patients are present. Hospitals will be required to post conspicuous signage informing visitors of this requirement.

Subsection (c) directs the health policy commission (HPC) to promulgate any necessary regulations to implement this section.