



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Department of Public Health
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619

CHARLES D. BAKER
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO
Lieutenant Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS
Secretary

MONICA BHAREL, MD, MPH
Commissioner

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March 9, 2021

Michael D. Hurley, Clerk
Office of the Senate Clerk
State House, Room 335
Boston, MA 0213

Steven T. James, Clerk
Office of the Senate Clerk
State House, Room 145
Boston, MA 02133

To the Honorable Members of the General Court,

In accordance with Chapter 287 of the Acts of 2020 and consistent with the Governor's veto message, while the Department of Public Health does not object to the submission of this report, the current due date does not provide sufficient time to prepare a responsive report. To ensure the report reflects the true objective that the act entails, the Department of Public Health plans to submit a full, comprehensive report on May 31, 2021. The report will include the following details--

- A complete summary of the rules, regulations, guidance and best practices on
 - The process of testing patients
 - The process of testing staff
 - The updated protocols on COVID-19 and Non-COVID-19 related hospitalizations
 - The use of PPE equipment for patients over 70 years of age and staff treating said patients
 - The precautions for the transfer of patients from a hospital to a long-term care facility

Thank you in advance for your assistance with placing this letter in the record

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "MB", followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Monica Bharel, MD, MPH
Commissioner
Department of Public Health

CC: Joint Committee on Public Health
Joint Committee on Elder Affairs