



*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

*Executive Office of Health and Human Services*

*Department of Mental Health*

*25 Staniford Street*

*Boston, Massachusetts 02114-2575*

Mar 2, 2022

**CHARLES D. BAKER**  
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**KARYN E. POLITO**  
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**BROOKE DOYLE**  
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February 17, 2022

Steven T. James, Clerk  
Clerk of the House of Representatives  
State House, Room 142  
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Clerk:

Chapter 47 of the Acts of 2017, in Section 57, amended M.G.L. ch.123 §35 to require the Commissioner of Mental Health to report annually whether a facility other than the Massachusetts Correctional Institution at Bridgewater is being used for treatment of males committed to Massachusetts Alcohol and Substance Abuse Center (MASAC) under Section 35, and the number of persons so committed to such a facility in the previous year. Although the Department of Mental Health does not maintain this information, I have received the following information from the Department of Correction (DOC):

For calendar year 2021, the DOC reports that 973 men were admitted to MASAC at Plymouth. Of this number, 898 men were admitted under "straight" Section 35 orders and 75 were under both Section 35 and bail orders in connection with criminal matters. Further for calendar year 2021, the DOC reports that 570 men were admitted to the Hampden County House of Correction unit. Of this number, 469 men were admitted under "straight" Section 35 orders and 101 were under both Section 35 and bail orders in connection with criminal matters.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

Brooke Doyle, M.Ed., LMHC  
Commissioner

Cc: Carol A. Mici, Commissioner, Department of Corrections