

HOUSE No. 1165

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kevin G. Honan and Thomas M. Stanley

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 establishing a community health center transformation fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Bruce J. Ayers</i>	<i>1st Norfolk</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Michael J. Barrett</i>	<i>Third Middlesex</i>
<i>David Biele</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>
<i>Daniel Cahill</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>
<i>Linda Dean Campbell</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>
<i>Peter Capano</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>
<i>Gerard J. Cassidy</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>Daniel R. Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>

<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>First Essex</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>
<i>Barry R. Finegold</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Patricia A. Haddad</i>	<i>5th Bristol</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>
<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>
<i>John J. Mahoney</i>	<i>13th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Liz Miranda</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>

<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Jon Santiago</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Andres X. Vargas</i>	<i>3rd Essex</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

HOUSE No. 1165

By Messrs. Honan of Boston and Stanley of Waltham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1165) of Kevin G. Honan and others relative to establishing a community health center transformation fund. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act establishing a community health center transformation fund.

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. Chapter 29 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,
2 is hereby amended by inserting section 2WWW after section 2VVVV:

3 (a) For the purposes of this section, unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the
4 following words shall have the following meanings:

5 “Community health center”, any community health center in the Commonwealth
6 receiving a grant under 42 U.S.C section 254(b).

7 “Financial need”, shall be demonstrated by, but not limited to, evidence of any of the
8 following criteria: (i) negative operating margins, (ii) insufficient cash flow or cash-on-hand, (iii)
9 uncertain ability to cover long-term obligations, (iv) potential for loss, reduction, or full closure
10 of critical community services, (v) a public payer mix of 63% or higher including uninsured
11 individuals or individuals whose care may in whole or in part be subsidized by the Health Safety
12 Net or the Health Connector, (vi) a substantial proportion of patients requiring additional

13 services to meet unique cultural, linguistic, and socioeconomic needs, (vii) limited access to
14 capital finance for essential health center services and operations; or (viii) inability to adequately
15 meet staffing needs due to salary constraints and other issues regarding workforce recruitment
16 and retention.

17 (a) There shall be established and set up on the books of the commonwealth a separate
18 fund, to be known as the Community Health Center Transformation Fund. It shall be expended at
19 the direction of the secretary of the executive office of health and human services.

20 (b) The secretary shall expend not less than \$15,000,000 annually from the Community
21 Health Center Transformation Fund to community health centers based upon their demonstrated
22 financial need.

23 (c) The secretary may require as a condition of receiving payment from the fund that an
24 eligible community health center agrees to an independent financial and operational audit to
25 recommend steps to increase the sustainability and efficiency of the community health center.

26 (d) The executive office of health and human services shall promulgate regulations
27 necessary to carry out this section.