

HOUSE No. 1179

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Josh S. Cutler

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 relative to hospital profit transparency and fairness.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>	<i>1/5/2023</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>
<i>James C. Arena-DeRosa</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>1/24/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Margaret R. Scarsdale</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>1/26/2023</i>
<i>Carol A. Doherty</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>	<i>1/29/2023</i>
<i>Erika Uytterhoeven</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/8/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/10/2023</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/15/2023</i>
<i>Christopher Richard Flanagan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>2/23/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/27/2023</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	<i>2/28/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 1179

By Representative Cutler of Pembroke, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1179) of Josh S. Cutler and others relative to hospital profit transparency and fairness and the establishment of a Medicaid reimbursement enhancement fund. Health Care Financing.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1255 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to hospital profit transparency and fairness.

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. Definitions

2 As used in this section, the following words shall have the following meanings:-

3 Facility, a hospital licensed under Section 51, of Chapter 111 of the General Laws, the
4 teaching hospital of the University of Massachusetts medical school, any licensed private or
5 state-owned and state-operated general acute care hospital, an acute psychiatric hospital, an acute
6 care specialty hospital, or any acute care unit within a state operated healthcare facility. This
7 definition shall not include rehabilitation facilities or long-term care facilities.

8 Compensation, salary; bonus payments, whether based on performance or otherwise;
9 deferred compensation; incentive payments; severance payments; loans to be repaid on terms,

10 including interest, less burdensome than market rate; value of use of facility-provided vehicles,
11 housing or other perquisites not available to all employees; stock or stock options and any
12 dividends or other incidents of the ownership thereof.

13 "Minimum facility compensation" the value of the annual compensation received by a
14 full time employee of a facility earning minimum wage as set under G.L. c. 151 1, or if none,
15 then the lowest-paid full time employee.

16 Section 2: If in any fiscal year a facility that accepts funds from the Commonwealth, and
17 whose patient mix is less than 60% government payer, reports to the Center for Health
18 Information and Analysis an annual operating margin, including amortization and depreciation,
19 that exceeds 8%, that facility shall be subject to a civil penalty equal to the amount by which the
20 annual operating margin exceeds 8%.

21 Section 3: If the Chief Executive Officer of a facility that accepts funds from the
22 Commonwealth receives annual compensation greater than 100 times the minimum facility
23 compensation, the facility shall be subject to a civil penalty equal to the amount by which the
24 Chief Executive Officer's annual compensation exceeds 100 times the value of the minimum
25 facility compensation.

26 Section 4. Each facility that accepts funds from the Commonwealth shall report annually
27 to the Center for Health Information and Analysis all financial assets owned by the facility,
28 including those held in financial institutions outside the United States or invested outside the
29 United States. Unless prohibited by other law, the Center for Health Information and Analysis
30 shall make this information public within 7 calendar days of receipt.

31 Section 5. There is hereby established on the books of the Commonwealth a fund to be
32 known as the Medicaid Reimbursement Enhancement Fund. Any penalties collected as a result
33 of violations of this act shall be deposited into this fund, and subject to appropriation, shall be
34 used to improve Medicaid reimbursement to eligible hospitals.

35 Section 6: This act shall not be construed to impair any contract or agreement in effect as
36 of July 1, 2021.

37 Section 7: The Health Policy Commission shall promulgate regulations governing the
38 implementation, operation and enforcement of this act.

39 Section 8: Severability. The provisions of this act are severable, and if any clause,
40 sentence, paragraph or section of this law or an application thereof shall be adjudged by any
41 court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate
42 the remainder thereof but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph,
43 section or application adjudged invalid and such clause, sentence, paragraph, section or
44 application shall be reformed and construed so that it would be valid to the maximum extent
45 permitted.

46 Section 9: The provisions of this act shall be effective commencing on July 1, 2021.