

HOUSE No. 1518

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Liz Miranda

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 to facilitate re-entry.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Liz Miranda</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>
<i>Mayor Martin J. Walsh</i>	
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Joseph A. Boncore</i>	<i>First Suffolk and Middlesex</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel R. Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Russell E. Holmes</i>	<i>6th Suffolk</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>

Jon Santiago
Chynah Tyler

9th Suffolk
7th Suffolk

HOUSE No. 1518

By Ms. Miranda of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1518) of Liz Miranda and others relative to discharging individuals released from incarceration or residential treatment into homelessness or emergency shelters. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to facilitate re-entry.

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. The Executive Office of Health and Human Services, Executive Office of
2 Housing and Economic Development, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, the
3 Department of Housing and Community Development, the Department of Youth Services, the
4 Department of Transitional Assistance, the Department of Developmental Services, the
5 Department of Mental Health, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of
6 Public Health, the Department of Correction, and any other office or agency recommended by
7 the Governor shall develop a memorandum of understanding setting forth an action plan to avoid
8 discharges of individuals released from incarceration or residential treatment into homelessness
9 or emergency shelter. The memorandum and plan may include enhanced comprehensive
10 institutional discharge planning, increased availability of community-based supportive services,
11 that may include but need not be limited to, resident service coordination, housing support teams
12 and other models to link individuals with any services necessary to maintain housing stability.

13 Further, said memorandum of understanding shall identify and resolve barriers to
14 comprehensive institutional discharge planning and community-based services in order to
15 prevent discharges of individuals into homelessness or emergency shelters. Parties to the
16 memorandum of understanding shall establish model comprehensive institutional discharge
17 housing plan and identify other resources as may be necessary or helpful in furthering the goals
18 of the memorandum of understanding or subsequent agreement. The parties to this memorandum
19 of understanding shall amend rules and regulations wherever necessary or appropriate to carry
20 the objectives of the executed memorandum of understanding or subsequent agreement into
21 effect. The memorandum of understanding, along with any legislative or budgetary action
22 recommended by the parties, shall be filed with the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, the Joint
23 Committee on Housing, the Joint Committee on Elder Affairs, the Joint Committee on Children,
24 Families and Persons with Disabilities, the Joint Committee on the Judiciary, the Senate
25 Committee on Ways and Means and the House Committee on Ways and Means no later than
26 January 1, 2020.