

HOUSE No. 1709

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marjorie C. Decker

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 enabling physician assistants to authorize psychiatric and substance abuse holds.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Marjorie C. Decker

25th Middlesex

Carlos Gonzalez

10th Hampden

HOUSE No. 1709

By Ms. Decker of Cambridge, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1709) of Marjorie C. Decker and Carlos Gonzalez relative to enabling physician assistants to authorize psychiatric and substance abuse holds. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act enabling physician assistants to authorize psychiatric and substance abuse holds.

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. Section 12 of chapter 123 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended, in line 8, by inserting after the words “licensed independent
3 social worker licensed pursuant to sections 130 to 137, inclusive, of chapter 112,” the following
4 words: “or a Physician Assistant licensed pursuant to section 9(e) of chapter 112”.

5 SECTION 2. Said section is hereby amended, in line 17, by inserting after the words
6 “qualified psychiatric nurse mental health clinical specialist,” the following words, “physician
7 assistant,”.

8 SECTION 3. Said section is hereby amended, in line 21, by inserting after the words
9 “qualified psychiatric nurse mental health clinical specialist,” the following words, “physician
10 assistant,”.

11 SECTION 4. Section 35 of said chapter, is hereby amended, in line 18, by inserting after
12 the word “physician” the following words: “,Physician Assistant licensed pursuant to section
13 9(e) of chapter 112,”.