

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1923**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_

PRESENTED BY:

**Demetrius J. Atsalis**

\_\_\_\_\_

*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act creating a community hospital in-patient psychiatric relief program (“chipp”).

\_\_\_\_\_

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Demetrius J. Atsalis

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Second Barnstable

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

## AN ACT CREATING A COMMUNITY HOSPITAL IN-PATIENT PSYCHIATRIC RELIEF PROGRAM (“CHIPP”).

*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. Notwithstanding any General or Special law to the contrary, there shall be  
2 established a program called the Community Hospital In-Patient Psychiatric Relief Program (“CHIPP”) to  
3 provide annual additional funding from the Executive Office of Health and Human Services, MassHealth  
4 Office, to community hospitals that provide inpatient psychiatric services to individuals enrolled in the  
5 MassHealth program. The eligibility criteria for community hospitals to receive funding from the CHIPP  
6 program shall be based on hospital cost reports on file with the Commonwealth’s Division of Health Care  
7 finance and Policy (the “Division”) for the prior Fiscal Year. To be eligible for funding from the CHIPP  
8 program, community hospitals must have in-patient psychiatric units that have negative operating margins  
9 for their inpatient psychiatric cost center, adjusted to exclude any grants awarded from the Essential  
10 Community Provider Trust Fund. Community hospitals may petition the Division within 90 days from the  
11 close of each hospital Fiscal Year, for a determination of eligibility for funding from the CHIPP program,  
12 and, if eligible, for an increase in in-patient psychiatric rates of up to 100% of cost. Hospitals that receive  
13 funding from the CHIPP program shall maintain records of amounts received from the program and of  
14 expenditures made from such funds, and shall make such records available for inspection upon request by  
15 the Division.