

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1924**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Michael A. Costello*

*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 relative to medical peer review.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Michael A. Costello*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*1st Essex*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1924**

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By Mr. Costello of Newburyport, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1924) of Michael A. Costello relative to medical peer review. Public Health.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen**  
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An Act relative to medical peer review.

*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 1 of chapter 111, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is  
2 hereby amended by striking out the definition of “Medical peer review committee” or  
3 “committee”, and inserting in place thereof the following definition:-

4 “Medical peer review committee” or “committee”, a committee of health care providers,  
5 which functions to: (i) evaluate or improve the quality of health care rendered by providers of  
6 health care services; (ii) determine whether health care services were performed in compliance  
7 with the applicable standards of care; (iii) determine whether the costs of health care services  
8 were performed in compliance with the applicable standards of care; (iv) determine whether the  
9 cost of the health care services rendered were considered reasonable by the providers of health  
10 services in the area; (v) determine whether a health care provider’s actions call into question  
11 such health care provider’s fitness to provide health care services; or (vi) evaluate and assist  
12 health care providers impaired or allegedly impaired by reason of alcohol, drugs, physical  
13 disability, mental instability or otherwise; provided further, that “medical peer review  
14 committee” shall also include: (i) a committee of a pharmacy society or association that is  
15 authorized to evaluate the quality of pharmacy services or the competence of pharmacists and  
16 suggest improvements in pharmacy systems to enhance patient care; or (ii) a pharmacy peer  
17 review committee established by a person or entity that owns a licensed pharmacy or employs  
18 pharmacists that is authorized to evaluate the quality of pharmacy services or the competence of  
19 pharmacists and suggest improvements in pharmacy systems to enhance patient care.

20 SECTION 2. Said chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby further amended by  
21 inserting at the end of section 204 the following :

22           (f) The provisions of this section shall apply to any committee formed by an individual  
23 health care provider, physician group practice, licensed health care facility or any combination  
24 thereof to perform the duties or functions of medical peer review as set forth in section one of  
25 this chapter, notwithstanding the fact that the formation of the committee is not required by law  
26 or regulation or that the individual, group or facility is not solely affiliated with a public hospital  
27 or licensed hospital or nursing home or health maintenance organization.