

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1941**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**James R. Miceli**

*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 department of mental health patients

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
James R. Miceli	19th Middlesex
Alfred Donovan	7 Chester Street Tewksbury, MA 01876
John Mackey	31 Rail Way Hollis, NH 03049

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1892 OF .]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH PATIENTS.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

- 1 Chapter 123 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 8 the following
- 2 section:-
- 3 Section 8A. The chief of police or his designee of any city or town containing a facility of the
- 4 department shall be a full voting member of any group or panel determining the fitness of any
- 5 patient requesting or being considered for unescorted privileges. The medical, psychiatric,
- 6 forensic, clinical and criminal records and sex offender registry records shall be made available
- 7 to the chief or his designee. Unescorted privileges shall be the release of any patient or client
- 8 while under the direct care or custody of the department into a community without being under
- 9 the direct supervision or care of a staff person of the department.