

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1955**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Jack Patrick Lewis***

*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 improving Hepatitis C screening.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>

<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Jon Santiago</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1955**

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By Mr. Lewis of Framingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1955) of Jack Patrick Lewis and others relative to improving Hepatitis C screening. Public Health.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act improving Hepatitis C screening.

*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 4M½ of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (b) and inserting in place thereof  
3 the following subsection:-

4           (b) Every person over the age of 18 who receives health care services from a primary care  
5 provider shall be offered a hepatitis C screening test or a Hepatitis C diagnostic test unless the  
6 provider believes that: (i) the person is being treated for a life threatening emergency; (ii) the  
7 person has previously been offered or has received a hepatitis screening test; or (iii) the person  
8 lacks capacity to consent to a hepatitis C screening test.

9           SECTION 2. Section 4M½ of chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby further amended  
10 by adding the following subsections:-

11 (c) The Department shall make and from time to time revise regulations establishing in  
12 furtherance of the hepatitis C screening or hepatitis C diagnostic test requirements under  
13 subsection (b).

14 (d) Such regulations required under subsection (c) shall include: (i) the frequency with  
15 which a primary care provider must offer a hepatitis C screening test or hepatitis C diagnostic  
16 test; and (ii) fines and/or penalties for non-compliance with such regulations.

17 (e) The Department shall promulgate the initial regulations required under subsection (c)  
18 and (d) not later than October 1, 2019