

HOUSE No. 2003

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mathew J. Muratore

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 relative to mental health and suicide prevention.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>Ryan M. Hamilton</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2023</i>
<i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>Alyson M. Sullivan-Almeida</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>	<i>2/9/2023</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/16/2023</i>
<i>Margaret R. Scarsdale</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>	<i>2/17/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/18/2023</i>
<i>Jennifer Balinsky Armini</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>	<i>2/21/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 2003

By Representative Muratore of Plymouth, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2003) of Mathew J. Muratore and others relative to mental health and suicide prevention. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act relative to mental health and suicide prevention.

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. There shall be established the Massachusetts Commission on Suicide
2 Prevention and Mental Health Crisis Management to be comprised of seven members; The
3 Governor or his/her designee, the Attorney General or his/her designee, the Secretary of Health
4 and Human Services or his/her designee, the Commissioner of The Department of Mental Health
5 or his/her designee, the Commissioner of Executive Office of Public Safety and Security or
6 his/her designee, the Speaker of the House or his/her designee, and the Senate President or
7 his/her designee.

8 Said commission shall examine the state of suicide prevention and mental health crisis
9 management in the Commonwealth. The commission will include in its study emergency and
10 outpatient care needs, inpatient and long-term care needs, facility and infrastructure needs, public
11 information and outreach; professional training needs and potential shortages, establishing a

12 dedicated fund suitable to accept donations from charitable organizations for said needs and
13 other means of funding sources.

14 Said commission shall examine current and proposed suicide prevention and mental
15 health crisis management measures including but not limited to counseling services, diversionary
16 programs, doctors' interventions, police wellness visits, court programs, youth education,
17 Sections 12 and Section 35 of Chapter 123 and shall issue a report no later than January 1, 2025
18 with recommendations for improvements to those efforts including expanded access, additional
19 channels of communication, improvements to follow up programs, assistance on securing a home
20 from materials that could be a danger to individuals who may be a risk to themselves, and
21 increased marketing.

22 Said commission shall also report on the current relative statistics regarding suicide and
23 the means of suicide as established by the Injury Surveillance Program under the Massachusetts
24 Department of Public Health; and shall also include legal information on how certain means of
25 suicide or harm such as firearms, excessive medications or alcohol, suffocation or hanging can
26 be handled if believed to be a potential hazard.

27 SECTION 2. The Department of Mental Health shall develop materials available to the
28 public for a wellness follow up program. The program shall offer assistance on how to conduct a
29 home inspection for materials that could be a danger to person who may be a risk to themselves
30 as well as information on mental health wellness assistance. The information shall also include
31 legal information on how certain means of suicide or harm such as firearms, excessive
32 medications or alcohol can be legally and safely handled if found.

33 The Department of Mental Health shall develop public relation materials, public service
34 announcements, and other means to make the general public aware of Mass 211 services and
35 other services such as the Federal 988 program.