

HOUSE No. 2390

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Evandro C. Carvalho

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 to study and create a Massachusetts substance abuse treatment expansion strategy.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Evandro C. Carvalho</i>	<i>5th Suffolk</i>
<i>Daniel Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>

HOUSE No. 2390

By Mr. Carvalho of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2390) of Evandro C. Carvalho, Daniel Cullinane and Carlos Gonzalez relative to a statewide study of treatment options to the ongoing opioid crisis. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act to study and create a Massachusetts substance abuse treatment expansion strategy.

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. Preamble

2 Whereas, the Commonwealth is suffering from an epidemic of substance abuse; and

3 Whereas, Substance abuse impacts every community of the Commonwealth; and

4 Whereas, Substance abuse treatment and medication assisted treatment are inaccessible in
5 some communities of the Commonwealth; and

6 Whereas, some substance abuse treatment and medication assisted treatment services are
7 jointly overseen by state and federal agencies; and

8 Whereas, state and federal coordination in the expansion of substance abuse and
9 medication assisted treatment can better serve the residents of the commonwealth; and

10 Whereas, the General Court of Massachusetts requires more information to ensure
11 equitable access to substance abuse treatment and medically assisted treatment services; now
12 therefore be it

13 Resolved, that the General Court of Massachusetts hereby requests the Massachusetts
14 department of health and human services to study the regional demand and distribution of
15 substance abuse treatment services and medically assisted treatment services in the
16 Commonwealth; and be it further

17 Resolved, that the General Court of Massachusetts hereby requests the Substance Abuse
18 and Mental Health Services Administration to participate and support said study.

19 Section 2. Definitions

20 As used in the following chapter, the following words shall, unless the context clearly
21 requires otherwise, have the following meaning:

22 “Distribution” shall mean a number in each municipality of the Commonwealth.

23 Section 3. Study

24 The department of health and human services shall submit a report to the chairs of the
25 joint committee on mental health and substance abuse, the clerks of the house and senate, the
26 secretary of administration and finance, and the chairs of the house and senate committees on
27 ways and means no later than December 1, 2017. The report shall include the distribution of
28 reports of opiate overdoses within the Commonwealth, the distribution of the last known
29 residence of each victim of overdoses, the distribution and capacity of substance abuse treatment
30 services, the distribution and capacity of medically assisted treatment services, and the

31 distribution of alcohol and drug free housing when available. The report shall also include a
32 preliminary analysis of the treatment expansions or reductions, and their costs to the state,
33 required to match the demands for substance abuse and medically assisted treatment in the
34 commonwealth with the distribution of service capacity. This report shall be known as the
35 Massachusetts Substance Abuse Treatment Expansion Strategy.