

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2393**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Diana DiZoglio***

*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 substance abuse accountable care organizations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Diana DiZoglio*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*14th Essex*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2393**

By Ms. DiZoglio of Methuen, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2393) of Diana DiZoglio relative to substance abuse accountable care organizations. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1789 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act relative to substance abuse accountable care organizations.

*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 6D of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

2 Section 19. (a) For the purposes of this section the following terms, shall unless the  
3 context clearly appears otherwise, have the following meanings:-

4 “Substance use disorder accountable care organization”, a provider organization certified  
5 under section 15 or other organization engaged in the treatment or management of substance use  
6 disorder.

7 “Recovery center”, a halfway house, treatment unit, detoxification facility, facility  
8 licensed pursuant to section 7 of chapter 111E or a residence, commonly known as a sober home,

9 that provides or advertises as providing, an alcohol and drug free environment for people  
10 recovering from substance use disorders.

11 “Recovery program”, any program or services delivered by or through a substance use  
12 disorder accountable care organization at a recovery center.

13 “Substance use disorder”, the range of conditions associated with alcohol, tobacco and  
14 other drug use, including substance dependence, abuse and withdrawal as defined by the  
15 American Psychiatric Association.

16 (b) The commission shall facilitate and coordinate the creation of recovery programs  
17 provided by a substance use disorder accountable care organization, for the purpose of ensuring  
18 and improving access to appropriate mental health and substance use disorder services  
19 throughout the commonwealth by providing a platform for the organization of all relevant health,  
20 mental health, substance abuse, and other community entities, and by providing a mechanism to  
21 use and channel financial and other resources efficiently and effectively.

22 (c) The commission shall identify unmet community needs that may be coordinated  
23 or provided by a substance use disorder accountable care organization through a recovery  
24 program, including, but not limited to, the following:

25 (1) waiting lists in community mental health and substance abuse services;

26 (2) hospital emergency department use by persons with mental and substance use  
27 illnesses; including volume, length of stay, and challenges associated with obtaining psychiatric  
28 assessment;

29 (3) difficulty obtaining admission to inpatient facilities, and reasons therefore;

- 30 (4) availability of primary care providers in the community;
- 31 (5) availability of psychiatrists and mental health professionals; and
- 32 (6) transportation issues.

33 (d) The commission shall develop a plan to address community needs through substance  
34 use disorder accountable care organizations, including a specific timeline for implementation of  
35 specific objectives and establishment of evaluation measures. The comprehensive plan shall  
36 include the complete continuum of behavioral health services, including, but not limited to, the  
37 following:

- 38 (1) prevention;
- 39 (2) client assessment and diagnosis;
- 40 (3) an array of outpatient behavioral health services;
- 41 (4) case coordination;
- 42 (5) crisis and emergency services; and
- 43 (6) treatment, including inpatient psychiatric services in public and private hospitals.

44 (e) A substance use disorder accountable care organization shall manage all the high risk  
45 prescribed medicines that are in use within alcohol and drug free housing. Prescribed  
46 medications shall only be accessible and administered by licensed clinical personnel. The  
47 commission shall establish rules and regulations for the classification of high risk prescribed  
48 medications and the use of individualized locked boxes for such medications to be stored in a  
49 locked closet or office in a recovery center.