

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 3479**

---

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Steven M. Walsh**

---

*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 Requiring Pain Management and Prescription Drug Abuse Training For Prescribing Medical and Healthcare Providers.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Steven M. Walsh	11th Essex
Brian P. Wallace	4th Suffolk
Ruth B. Balser	12th Middlesex
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk
Robert L. Hedlund	Plymouth and Norfolk

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

## AN ACT REQUIRING PAIN MANAGEMENT AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE TRAINING FOR PRESCRIBING MEDICAL AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS.

*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 18 of Chapter 94C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following subsection (e):

3 (e) Prescribing practitioners seeking to obtain or renew a Massachusetts professional license shall be  
4 required to demonstrate completion of no less than 8 hours of training for physicians and 2 hours of  
5 training for all other prescribing practitioners in effective pain management, including identification of  
6 patients at high risk for substance abuse and other aspects of prescription medication abuse. Professional  
7 licensing boards may count these hours as part of their regular continuing education licensing  
8 requirements. The Department of Public Health shall assist professional education organizations in  
9 developing programs that achieve the stated purposes, which programs shall qualify toward the  
10 satisfaction of continuing professional education licensing requirements.