

SENATE No. 1234

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mark C. Montigny

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 strengthen patients' rights.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2017</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2017</i>

SENATE No. 1234

By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1234) of Mark C. Montigny, James R. Miceli and Keiko M. Orrall for legislation to strengthen patients' rights. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to strengthen patients' rights.

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 70E of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2014 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the fourth paragraph the following new paragraph:-

3 Every patient, upon placement into either inpatient or observation status, shall receive
4 complete information from an admitting hospital regarding (i) whether such patient has been
5 admitted to the hospital as an inpatient or is in observation status; (ii) a statement that
6 observation status may affect the patient’s Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance coverage for
7 hospital services, medication, and skilled nursing facility care following discharge; and (iii) a
8 recommendation that the patient contact his or her insurance plan to better understand the
9 implications of being placed in observation status versus inpatient admission. Such notice shall
10 be in addition to any requirements set forth by Medicare under Public Law 114-42.