

SENATE No. 1406

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul W. Mark

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 preserving access to hospital services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire</i>	
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>2/13/2023</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/13/2023</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>2/13/2023</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>	<i>2/21/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/1/2023</i>

SENATE No. 1406

By Mr. Mark, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1406) of Paul W. Mark, Lindsay N. Sabadosa, Jack Patrick Lewis, James B. Eldridge and other members of the General Court for legislation to preserve access to hospital services. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act preserving access to hospital services.

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 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end of section 51G
2 the following new section:

3 (7) The department, in conjunction with other state departments or agencies, shall
4 promulgate regulations creating a process for state receivership for any hospital or free-standing
5 clinic that provides essential health services and (a) closes without providing the required 90-day
6 notice or (b) closes a hospital or free-standing clinic following a determination by the department
7 that closure would constitute a discontinuation of services necessary for preserving access and
8 health status in the hospital or free-standing clinic’s service area. These regulations shall include
9 a mechanism and source for funding said receivership.