

SENATE No. 1491

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Michael O. Moore

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 stroke protocols.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	
<i>Steven G. Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>

SENATE No. 1491

By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1491) of Michael O. Moore and Steven G. Xiarhos for legislation relative to timely care and saving lives. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1312 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to stroke protocols.

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. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 51J the following section:-

3 Section 51K. No later than January 1, 2022, the department and the regional emergency
4 medical services councils shall update their pre-hospital care protocols and point-of-entry plans
5 related to the assessment, treatment and transport of stroke patients by licensed emergency
6 medical services providers in this state. Such protocols shall include point of entry criteria and
7 plans for the triage and transport of stroke patients who may have an emergent large vessel
8 occlusion, to the most appropriate facility that offers advanced neuroendovascular treatment
9 within a specified timeframe of onset of symptoms. For purposes of this section, hospitals
10 offering neuroendovascular treatment shall mean “facilities with the capabilities to properly

11 assess, diagnose using advanced imaging devices, and treat stroke patients with complex cases of
12 ischemic stroke, including emergent large vessel occlusion caused by the loss of blood supply to
13 a part of the brain, or hemorrhagic stroke, caused by bleeding into a part of the brain, and
14 requiring immediate treatment at a facility with a trained team of neurointerventional surgeons,
15 vascular neurologists and assisting medical personnel and the ability to perform a mechanical
16 thrombectomy 24 hours per day, seven days per week to treat the stroke. The department shall
17 identify facilities that meet the criteria set forth in this section. After January 1, 2023, the
18 department and regional emergency medical services councils shall annually review and update,
19 if appropriate, their pre-hospital care protocols and point-of-entry plans to ensure stroke patients
20 are transported to the most appropriate facility in accordance with this section.