

**SENATE . . . . . No. 394**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Mark C. Montigny***

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*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 establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Mark C. Montigny*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Second Bristol and Plymouth*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 394**

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By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 394) of Mark C. Montigny for legislation to establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities. Elder Affairs.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 423 OF 2021-2022.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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

An Act to establish safe staffing levels at skilled nursing facilities.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           The department of public health shall establish minimum staffing requirements at skilled  
2 nursing care facilities and for all level I, II and III long-term care facilities as defined in 105  
3 CMR 150.001. Working with 1199SEIU and other appropriate stakeholders, the department shall  
4 develop amendments to the existing nursing services regulations contained in 105 CMR 150.007  
5 that ensure these facilities employ an adequate number of nurses, certified nurse assistants, and  
6 other staff to both meet all resident needs and ensure that sufficient nursing staff with the  
7 appropriate competencies is working at any given time to assure resident safety and attain or  
8 maintain the highest practicable physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being of each resident,  
9 as determined by resident assessments and individual plans of care. Said amended regulations  
10 shall include specific standards, including but not limited to, a minimum 4.1 hours of care per

11 patient per day as well as direct-care staff-to-resident ratios to ensure consistent delivery of  
12 quality care in a safe and sanitary facility.

13 The department shall issue public recommendations on these issues no later than six  
14 months following final passage of this act.