

SENATE No. 741

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Anthony D. Galluccio

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 to ensure access to inpatient psychiatric facilities.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Anthony D. Galluccio	Middlesex, Suffolk and Essex
Gale D. Candaras	First Hampden and Hampshire
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.	26th Middlesex
Richard J. Ross	9th Norfolk

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO ENSURE ACCESS TO INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC 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 SECTION 1. Chapter 6A, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended
2 by adding after section 16G the following new section:—

3 Section 16H. Inpatient Psychiatric Reporting.

4 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Executive Office of Health and
5 Human Services shall submit a report annually by July 1 to the Governor and the General Court
6 on the number of inpatient psychiatric beds in the commonwealth. The report shall include: (i)
7 data on the current capacity of psychiatric inpatient facilities in the commonwealth, delineating
8 between institutions with current capacity to accept new patients and institutions at or over
9 capacity; (ii) data on projected capacity of inpatient psychiatric facilities in the commonwealth,
10 including anticipated increases and decreases in available beds; (iii) recommendations for
11 designing, implementing and improving programs, services, and capacity in such facilities; and
12 (iv) proposals for statutory and regulatory changes to increase access to inpatient psychiatric
13 health care services, programs and capacity in the commonwealth. Such report shall be filed
14 with the clerks of the Senate and House of Representatives and shall be forwarded by the clerks
15 to the chairs of the joint committee on mental health and substance abuse and the chairs of the
16 joint committee on health care financing.