

HOUSE No. 1487

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kay Khan

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 relative to health services in Massachusetts correctional institutions, houses of correction and jails.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Patricia D. Jehlen	Second Middlesex
Elizabeth A. Malia	11th Suffolk
Benjamin Swan	11th Hampden
Frank I. Smizik	15th Norfolk
Gloria L. Fox	7th Suffolk

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1544 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO HEALTH SERVICES IN MASSACHUSETTS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS, HOUSES OF CORRECTION AND JAILS.

*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 127 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 17
2 the following sections:

3 Section 17A Notwithstanding any general or special law to contrary, in order to provide for
4 improved medical treatment for those incarcerated in Massachusetts' prisons and jails by
5 creating guidelines for health services, accessing cost containment measures, integrating
6 healthcare during incarceration into the existing continuum of care in our state, health services
7 shall provide inmates with drug treatment and rehabilitation and any other medical treatments to
8 successfully complete said drug treatment and rehabilitation. Further, the commissioner of
9 correction and the directors of the county facilities shall review the training of prison personnel
10 and, where necessary, shall improve said training to include training on the ability to recognize
11 an inmate's potential need for medical care and facilitate such services.

12 Section 17B. All health services for inmates shall include high quality health care while
13 leveraging cost containment measures to the extent that the Commonwealth authorizes them as
14 part of any other state healthcare program including but not limited to bulk purchasing of
15 prescription medication, uniform billing, contracting with non-profit providers, prevention
16 services and leveraging of better service prices through joint negotiation and pooling of
17 consumers.