

HOUSE No. 1919

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Daniel J. Hunt

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 regulating central service technicians.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Daniel J. Hunt</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>
<i>Daniel R. Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Patricia A. Haddad</i>	<i>5th Bristol</i>
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Patrick M. O'Connor</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>
<i>RoseLee Vincent</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>

Jonathan Hecht

29th Middlesex

Jack Patrick Lewis

7th Middlesex

HOUSE No. 1919

By Mr. Hunt of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1919) of Daniel J. Hunt and others relative to reusable medical instrument or device central service technicians in health care facilities. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court
(2019-2020)**

An Act regulating central service technicians.

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 Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 234 the following section:-

3 Section 235.

4 (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

5 “Allied health professional,” shall mean a person who holds and maintains a registration,
6 certification, or license to perform health care services by a state or a nationally accredited
7 credentialing organization.

8 “Central Service Technician,” any person, who decontaminates, inspects, assembles,
9 packages, and sterilizes reusable medical instruments or devices in a health care facility.

10 “Health care practitioner,” any person licensed or registered under chapter 111 or 112,
11 including any intern, resident, fellow or medical officer who conducts or assists with the
12 performance of surgery.

13 “Health care facility,” shall mean any “hospital” as defined in section 52 of chapter 111
14 or any “rural hospital” as defined in section 52 of chapter 111 or surgical services that are
15 provided in a free standing ambulatory surgery center, whether inpatient or outpatient,
16 conducted for charity or for profit and whether or not subject to section 25C. “Health care
17 facility” shall not include dental or private office of a health care practitioner.

18 (b) A health care facility shall not employ or otherwise retain the services of a central
19 service technician unless such person:

20 (1) Has successfully passed a nationally accredited central service exam for central
21 service technicians, and holds and maintains one of the following credentials administered by a
22 nationally accredited central service technician credentialing organization: the certified
23 registered central service technician credential, the certified sterile processing and distribution
24 technician credential or a substantially equivalent credential; or

25 (2) Provides evidence that the person was employed as a central service technician in a
26 health care facility on or before December 31, 2017.

27 (c) A central service technician who does not meet the requirements of paragraph (b)(2)
28 of this section shall have 18 months from the date of hire to obtain the certified registered central
29 service technician credential or the certified sterile processing and distribution technician.

30 (d) A person who qualifies to function as a central service technician in a health care
31 facility under paragraphs (b)(1) and (2) of this section must annually complete 10 hours of
32 continuing education credits to remain qualified to function as a central service technician. The
33 continuing education required under this subsection shall be in area related to the functions of a
34 central service technician.

35 (e) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the following persons from performing the tasks
36 or functions of a central service technicians:

37 (1) A health care practitioner;

38 (2) An allied health professional;

39 (3) A student or intern performing the functions of a central service technician under the
40 direct supervision of a health care practitioner as part of the student's or intern's training or
41 internship.

42 (f) A health care facility shall, upon the written request of a central service technician,
43 verify, in writing, the central service technician's dates of employment or the contract period
44 during which the central service technician provided services to the health care facility.

45 SECTION 2. The commissioner of the department of public health may adopt regulations
46 necessary to carry out this act. Such regulations shall be adopted not later than 90 days after the
47 effective date of this act.

48 SECTION 3. Section 1 shall take effect 180 days after the effective date of this act.