

HOUSE No. 02825

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patricia A. Haddad and

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 improving public safety through evidence-based community corrections supervision

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Patricia A. Haddad

5th Bristol

Kathi-Anne Reinstein

16th Suffolk

HOUSE No. 02825

By Representatives Ms. Haddad of Somerset and Ms. Reinstein, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2825) of Reinstein and Haddad for legislation to implement a pilot project for reforming re-entry and community supervision of criminal defendants and offenders Joint Committee on the Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act improving public safety through evidence-based community corrections supervision

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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 211F of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is

2 hereby amended by adding the following section:-

3 Section 7. Massachusetts shall support the development of two demonstration projects, in a

4 minimum of two counties, for the implementation of a community corrections program targeting

5 moderate to high-risk offenders between the ages of 17 to 24 years. The program shall combine

6 evidence-based supervision practices and programs and services designed to interrupt

7 criminogenic characteristics that research indicates leads to criminal behavior.

8 The program shall combine the techniques developed in the Roca Model, so called, in order to:

9 1) use researched-based tools in order to determine an individual's likelihood of re-offense and
10 to identify factors that are amenable to treatment and risk reduction;

11 2) structure treatment and supervision for offenders based upon their risk level, needs and
12 personal characteristics; and

13 3) connect offenders to pro-social family, friends, and activities in the community.

14 The program shall be funded annually through resources directed to the office of community
15 corrections for the community corrections centers in the demonstration site geographic
16 area and shall serve up to 50 individuals per site.

17 The probation department shall collaborate with the demonstration project to transfer
18 probationers who meet the project criteria. The decision to transfer shall be guided by a validated
19 risk-needs assessment, the criteria of which shall require offenders to be moderate to high-risk of
20 re-offense, absent the kind of intervention available through this project.

21 The offender shall remain in the custody of the probation department through the duration of the
22 program but shall be monitored and managed by the demonstration project administrator.

23 Each demonstration site shall collect data on the following: the number of participants, program
24 participation; program outcomes; 1 year and subsequent year follow-up; and data on subsequent
25 violative or criminal activity of program participants and the justice process result of that
26 activity.

27 The project administrator shall compile an annual report which includes data, findings, and
28 recommendations for improvement or expansion plans, with the governor, the senate and house

29 committees on ways and means, and the joint committee on the judiciary, on or before December
30 1.