

HOUSE No. 3543

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Brandy Fluker Oakley

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 resolution:

Resolutions to improve the care of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Brandy Fluker Oakley</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>	<i>1/20/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 3543

By Representative Fluker Oakley of Boston, a petition (accompanied by resolutions, House, No. 3543) of Brandy Fluker Oakley for the adoption of resolutions by the House of Representatives urging state agencies to expand comprehensive cardiovascular screening programs. House Rules.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

Resolutions to improve the care of atherosclerotic cardiovascular disease.

1 WHEREAS, cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in the United States, and
2 in the United States, approximately 21 million patients have been diagnosed with atherosclerotic
3 cardiovascular disease (ASCVD) and are at risk of cardiovascular event; and

4 WHEREAS, ASCVD is linked to the build-up of cholesterol in the arteries, and the risk
5 of associated events can be modified by lowering low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C),
6 nearly 70 million United States adults had higher than recommended LDL-C levels, and 43.1
7 million people in the United States are currently treated with lipid- lowering therapies to manage
8 cardiovascular risk; and

9 WHEREAS, only 20% of people with ASCVD who are taking statins, one of the leading
10 lipid-lowering therapies, actually achieve healthy levels of LDL-C, and the total direct and
11 indirect cost of ASCVD in the US was \$555 billion in 2016, and is projected to climb to \$1.1
12 trillion by 2035; and

13 WHEREAS, in Massachusetts, 418,600 adults have been told by a health professional
14 that they had angina, a stroke, a heart attack, or coronary heart disease, which are some of the
15 manifestations of ASCVD, 6,030 people had ASCVD as an underlying cause of death, 235,200
16 adults reported experiencing a heart attack in their lifetime, and 129,700 adults reported
17 experiencing a stroke in their lifetime; and

18 WHEREAS, Massachusetts spends an estimated \$2.4 billion dollars on direct medical
19 expenses for ASCVD care each year; now, therefore, be it

20 RESOLVED, by the House of Representative of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts
21 urges state agencies to expand comprehensive cardiovascular screening programs to allow for
22 earlier identification of patients at risk of cardiovascular events, to collaborate with federal and
23 national agencies and organizations to establish or expand comprehensive cardiovascular
24 screening programs, to update the state’s cardiovascular plan to accelerate quality improvements
25 in the care rendered to these patients such that screening, treatment, monitoring, and improved
26 health outcomes are achieved , and that policies are created to decrease the rising number of
27 deaths of Americans as a result of ASCVD; and be it further

28 RESOLVED, that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded by the Clerk of the House of
29 Representatives to the author for appropriate distribution.