

HOUSE No. 3585

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ruth B. Balser

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 pertaining to people with mental illness in hospital emergency rooms.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Ruth B. Balser	12th Middlesex
Elizabeth A. Malia	11th Suffolk
Ellen Story	3rd Hampshire
John W. Scibak	2nd Hampshire
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
William N. Brownsberger	24th Middlesex
Paul J. Donato	35th Middlesex
Alice K. Wolf	25th Middlesex
Jennifer L. Flanagan	Worcester and Middlesex
John F. Quinn	9th Bristol
Patricia D. Jehlen	Second Middlesex
Steven A. Tolman	Second Suffolk and Middlesex
Susan C. Fargo	Third Middlesex
John P. Fresolo	16th Worcester
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Thomas A. Golden, Jr.	16th Middlesex
Anthony W. Petrucci	First Suffolk and Middlesex
Bruce J. Ayers	1st Norfolk
Byron Rushing	9th Suffolk

Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex
Steven J. D'Amico	4th Bristol
James M. Murphy	4th Norfolk
John H. Rogers	12th Norfolk
Jennifer M. Callahan	18th Worcester

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT PERTAINING TO PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS IN HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOMS.

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. Section 25A of said chapter 111 of the General Laws, as so appearing in
2 the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “commonwealth”, in
3 line 33, the following words: -

4 , including data analysis relating to the use of behavioral restraint in certified emergency
5 care units of facilities as defined in section 70E of chapter 111.

6 SECTION 2. Subsection (a) of section 2 of chapter 118G, as so appearing, is hereby
7 amended by inserting after the word “services ” the following words:-

8 , including data on the use of behavioral restraint in certified emergency care units of
9 facilities as defined in section 70E of chapter 111.

10 SECTION 3. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the
11 commissioner of the department of mental health and the commissioner of the department of
12 public health shall submit a report semiannually on the progress of their joint working group on
13 emergency room treatment for people with behavioral health disorders to the joint committee on
14 mental health and substance abuse, the joint committee on public health and the house and senate
15 clerk.