

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 970**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Garrett J. Bradley***

*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 to promote accessible substance abuse treatment for all.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Garrett J. Bradley</i>	<i>3rd Plymouth</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Robert M. Koczera</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>
<i>Timothy R. Madden</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>RoseLee Vincent</i>	<i>16th Suffolk</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jose F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul J. Donato</i>	<i>35th Middlesex</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>

<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>7th Norfolk</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 970**

By Mr. Bradley of Hingham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 970) of Garrett J. Bradley and others relative to public health, substance abuse, treatment and opioids and accessible substance abuse treatment for all. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)

An Act to promote accessible substance abuse treatment for all.

*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 15 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following  
2 sections:-

3 Section 67. There shall be a Behavioral Health Education and Prevention Task Force  
4 charged with reviewing national best practices in regards to behavioral health prevention plans  
5 and educational curricula appropriate for schools and school-based settings. The task force shall  
6 be composed of the commissioner of elementary and secondary education, or a designee, who  
7 shall serve as chair; the commissioner of public health, or a designee; the commissioner of  
8 mental health, or a designee, and nine members to be appointed by the governor, including one  
9 representative each of the following organizations; the Massachusetts School Nurse Association,  
10 the Massachusetts Association for School-Based Health Care, the Massachusetts chapter of the  
11 National Association of Social Workers, the Massachusetts Association of School Committees,  
12 and the Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents; and, one expert in substance

13 abuse treatment for adolescents and young adults, one expert in mental health treatment for  
14 adolescents and young adults, and two persons with lived behavioral health experience as  
15 students. At least one-half of the total appointed members of the task force shall constitute a  
16 quorum for the transaction of business. Appointees shall serve without compensation.

17         The task force shall meet, at a minimum, quarterly, and shall develop and publish  
18 recommended best practices, model school prevention plans, and educational curricula related to  
19 behavioral health, appropriate for schools and school-based settings. The task force shall provide  
20 new or revised materials, recommendations, and model plans at least every five years, or as  
21 nationally recognized best practices evolve. The task force shall also, upon request, provide  
22 school districts that choose to implement such plans with information and technical assistance.

23         Section 68. There is hereby established, subject to appropriation, a Behavioral Health  
24 School Education and Prevention Incentive Grant program for the purpose of providing grants to  
25 public schools and school districts, through a competitive process, that choose to implement a  
26 locally-appropriate behavioral health school education and prevention plan based on  
27 recommendations as established by the Behavioral Health Education and Prevention Task Force  
28 pursuant to section 67 of this chapter. Program funds may be used by the department for the  
29 purpose of administering the grant program, provided, however, that administration costs shall  
30 not exceed 10 percent of the total fund, or, the cost of one full-time equivalent employee,  
31 whichever is greater. The department, in consultation with said task force, shall promulgate  
32 regulations governing the administration of the grant program.

33         SECTION 2. Chapter 32A of the General Laws, as amended by chapter 258 of the acts of  
34 2014, is hereby amended by inserting after section 17N the following section:-

35 Section 17O. For the purposes of this section the following terms shall have the  
36 following meanings:-

37 “Methadone treatment program”, an opioid treatment program as defined in 105 CMR  
38 164.006, a SAMHSA-certified program, licensed by the department of public health, usually  
39 comprised of a facility, staff, administration, patients, and services, that engages in supervised  
40 assessment and treatment using approved medications, of individuals who are addicted to  
41 opioids.

42 “SAMHSA”, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

43 Any coverage offered by the commission to an active or retired employee of the  
44 commonwealth insured under the group insurance commission shall provide coverage for  
45 buprenorphine, injectable naltrexone, and methadone treatment programs, provided that the total  
46 out-of-pocket cost charged to enrollees in the form of co-payments for methadone treatment  
47 programs shall not exceed 20 per cent of the total reimbursement paid to the methadone  
48 treatment program provider for such services.

49 Any coverage offered by the commission to an active or retired employee of the  
50 commonwealth insured under the group insurance commission shall provide reimbursement to  
51 methadone treatment programs for buprenorphine and injectable naltrexone provided to an  
52 enrollee.

53 SECTION 3. Section 1 of chapter 111E of the General Laws is hereby amended by  
54 adding after the definition of “Independent Physician” the following definition:-

55 “Opioid Treatment Center”, an opioid treatment program as defined in 105 CMR  
56 164.006, a SAMHSA-certified program, licensed by the department of public health, usually  
57 comprised of a facility, staff, administration, patients, and services, that engages in supervised  
58 assessment and treatment using approved medications, and which also include the provision of  
59 buprenorphine and injectable naltrexone, for the treatment of individuals who are addicted to  
60 opioids.

61 SECTION 4. Chapter 118E of the General Laws, as amended by chapter 258 of the acts  
62 of 2014, is hereby amended by inserting after section 10H the following section:-

63 Section 10I. For the purposes of this section the following terms shall have the following  
64 meanings:-

65 “Methadone treatment program”, an opioid treatment program as defined in 105 CMR  
66 164.006, a SAMHSA-certified program, licensed by the department of public health, usually  
67 comprised of a facility, staff, administration, patients, and services, that engages in supervised  
68 assessment and treatment using approved medications, of individuals who are addicted to  
69 opioids.

70 “SAMHSA”, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

71 The division and its contracted health insurers, health plans, health maintenance  
72 organizations, behavioral health management firms and third party administrators under contract  
73 to a Medicaid managed care organization or primary care clinician plan shall cover the cost of  
74 buprenorphine, injectable naltrexone, and methadone treatment programs, provided that the total  
75 out-of-pocket cost charged to enrollees in the form of co-payments for methadone treatment

76 programs shall not exceed 20 per cent of the total reimbursement paid to the methadone  
77 treatment program provider for such services.

78 The division and its contracted health insurers, health plans, health maintenance  
79 organizations, behavioral health management firms and third party administrators under contract  
80 to a Medicaid managed care organization or primary care clinician plan shall provide  
81 reimbursement to methadone treatment programs for buprenorphine and injectable naltrexone  
82 provided to an enrollee.”

83 SECTION 5. Chapter 125 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
84 following section:-

85 Section 22. Notwithstanding any general and special law to the contrary, any substance  
86 abuse treatment program operating within a state correctional facility must be licensed by the  
87 department of public health.

88 Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all state correctional facilities  
89 must utilize substance abuse detoxification protocols and procedures submitted to and approved  
90 by the department of public health. The department of public health may issue regulations or  
91 guidance governing the process for submission and approval of such protocols and procedures,  
92 and may grant exemptions or waivers to this requirement at the discretion of the commissioner of  
93 public health.

94 SECTION 6. Chapter 126 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the  
95 following section:-

96           Section 40. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any substance  
97 abuse treatment program operating within a jail, house of correction and reformation, or county  
98 industrial farm established under this chapter must be licensed by the department of public  
99 health.

100           Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, all jails, houses of correction  
101 and reformation, or county industrial farms established that perform substance abuse  
102 detoxification under this chapter must utilize substance abuse detoxification protocols and  
103 procedures submitted to and approved by the department of public health. The department of  
104 public health may issue regulations or guidance governing the process for submission and  
105 approval of such protocols and procedures, and may grant exemptions or waivers to this  
106 requirement at the discretion of the commissioner of public health.

107           SECTION 7. Chapter 175 of the General Laws, as amended by chapter 258 of the acts of  
108 2014, is hereby amended by inserting after section 47GG the following section:-

109           Section 47HH. For the purposes of this section the following terms shall have the  
110 following meanings:-

111           “Methadone treatment program”, an opioid treatment program as defined in 105 CMR  
112 164.006, a SAMHSA-certified program, licensed by the department of public health, usually  
113 comprised of a facility, staff, administration, patients, and services, that engages in supervised  
114 assessment and treatment using approved medications, of individuals who are addicted to  
115 opioids.

116           “SAMHSA”, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.



117 Any policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
118 renewed within the commonwealth, which is considered creditable coverage under section 1 of  
119 chapter 118M, shall provide coverage for buprenorphine, injectable naltrexone, and methadone  
120 treatment programs, provided that the total out-of-pocket cost charged to enrollees in the form of  
121 co-payments for methadone treatment programs shall not exceed 20 per cent of the total  
122 reimbursement paid to the methadone treatment program provider for such services.

123 Any policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
124 renewed within the commonwealth, which is considered creditable coverage under section 1 of  
125 chapter 118M, shall provide reimbursement to methadone treatment programs for buprenorphine  
126 and injectable naltrexone provided to an enrollee.

127 SECTION 8. The division of medical assistance, in consultation with the health policy  
128 commission and the department of public health, shall create a Substance Abuse and Primary  
129 Care Integration pilot program within the MassHealth Primary Care Clinician Plan for patients  
130 with opioid addiction seeking treatment at an opioid treatment center licensed by the department  
131 of public health as defined in section 1 of chapter 111E.

132 This program shall consist of two pilot programs: one co-located patient-centered  
133 medical home model pilot, and one affiliated health home pilot, leveraging bundled payments or  
134 other alternative payment methodologies to integrate primary care within opioid treatment  
135 centers. Each pilot program shall operate for three years, provide intensive case management  
136 services, and collect outcomes data on an ongoing basis, as determined by the division of  
137 medical assistance, in consultation with the health policy commission and the department of  
138 public health.

139 The division of medical assistance shall issue a report annually, on or before June 30, to  
140 the house and senate clerks, the house and senate committees on ways and means, the joint  
141 committee on health care financing, the joint committee on mental health and substance abuse,  
142 and the joint committee on public health. The report shall include a pilot program progress  
143 update comparing the results of each pilot program and providing outcomes data.

144 At the conclusion of said pilots, the health policy commission shall perform an audit and  
145 analysis of the pilot programs established under this section, following which, the commission  
146 shall issue a report on the efficacy of the pilot programs and provide recommendations on  
147 potential future payment methodologies and other incentive policies related to behavioral health  
148 integration and parity.

149 SECTION 9. The department of public health shall create a public facing quality  
150 outcomes dashboard. This dashboard shall report on, but not be limited to, (i) consumer  
151 satisfaction responses including treatment with dignity and respect, appropriateness of services,  
152 expertise of treatment staff, consumer education, and other measures with respect to the  
153 provision of substance abuse services; and (ii) nationally recognized Washington Circle and  
154 federal SAMHSA outcome-based measures, including, but not limited to, step-down to next  
155 level of care, abstinence measures, and recidivism to higher levels of care within 14-day and 30-  
156 day time periods.

157 All outcomes reporting and any qualitative assessments of said outcomes shall be  
158 adjusted for and reflect the acuity of patients admitted to a particular service, including, but not  
159 limited to, homelessness status, prior mental health treatment or diagnosis, substance abuse  
160 treatment, and other co-occurring disorders; provided further that quality outcomes reported on

161 the public facing dashboard shall not be used by any insurance carrier, as defined in section 1 of  
162 chapter 176O, the group insurance commission, or the division of medical assistance, to deny  
163 admission, reimbursement or payment for substance abuse services.

164 Said dashboard shall also include aggregate, de-identified demographic information such  
165 as age, race, ethnicity, and gender.

166 Said dashboard shall be operational on or before June 30, 2015.

167 SECTION 10. The department of public health shall, subject to appropriation, establish a  
168 community-based substance abuse walk-in center program. Location of such centers shall take  
169 into account need, equitable regional access, health disparities, and other such factors as  
170 determined by the department. The mission of these centers shall be to provide consumers with  
171 streamlined access to substance abuse treatment services, in-person emergency and urgent  
172 counseling, and coordinated transfers to treatment, when appropriate. Centers shall follow a  
173 central navigation model, utilizing real-time information on treatment bed and services  
174 availability across the system to efficiently refer consumers to appropriate care settings, and  
175 improve access to and understanding of the substance abuse treatment system. The department  
176 shall be allowed to amend contracts as needed to ensure access to real-time treatment bed and  
177 services availability.

178 SECTION 11. Sections 5 and 6 shall take effect one year from the effective date of this  
179 act.

180 SECTION 12. Sections 2, 4, and 7 shall take effect 60 days from the effective date of this  
181 act.

SECTION 13. Section 8 shall take effect one year from the effective date of this act.