

SENATE No. 1473

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

John C. Velis

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 relative to licensure demographics.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

John C. Velis

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Hampden and Hampshire

SENATE No. 1473

By Mr. Velis, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1473) of John C. Velis for legislation relative to licensure demographics. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to licensure demographics.

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 13 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 109 the following section:-

3 Section 110. (a) The department of public health shall annually collect and report on
4 demographic information of applicants for initial licensure and renewal of licensure in
5 professions that provide mental health and substance use disorder treatment. The department
6 shall collect data from the board of registration in social work; board of registration in the allied
7 mental health and human services professions; and board of registration of psychologists. The
8 report shall include, but not be limited to: (i) race; (ii) ethnicity; (iii) language (primary and
9 secondary); (iv) gender identity; (v) county(ies) where applicant intends to practice or currently
10 practices; (vi) school where master’s degree was conferred; (vii) years of prior experience in the
11 field of behavioral health; (viii) states, territories, or other jurisdictions where currently or
12 previously licensed; (ix) application decision; (x) amount of time from application submission to
13 application decision; and (xi) if the application resulted in denial, reason(s) for denial.

14 (b) Not later than October 31, 2023, and annually thereafter, the department shall report
15 aggregate findings to the joint committee on mental health, substance use and recovery and make
16 findings publicly accessible. Published findings shall be available in searchable, sortable format
17 to allow for the cross-tabulation of statistical variables