

SENATE No. 1485

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Mark C. Montigny

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 improving Hepatitis C screening.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Mark C. Montigny</i>	<i>Second Bristol and Plymouth</i>	
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>2/24/2021</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>	<i>3/1/2021</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>

SENATE No. 1485

By Mr. Montigny, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1485) of Mark C. Montigny, Elizabeth A. Malia, Brian M. Ashe and Michael O. Moore for legislation to improve Hepatitis C screening. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1303 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act improving Hepatitis C screening.

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 4M½ of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out subsection (b) and inserting in place thereof
3 the following subsection:-

4 (b) Every person over the age of 18 who receives health care services from a primary care
5 provider shall be offered a hepatitis C screening test or a Hepatitis C diagnostic test unless the
6 provider believes that: (i) the person is being treated for a life threatening emergency; (ii) the
7 person has previously been offered or has received a hepatitis screening test; or (iii) the person
8 lacks capacity to consent to a hepatitis C screening test.

9 SECTION 2. Section 4M½ of chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby further amended
10 by adding the following subsections:-

11 (c) The Department shall make and from time to time revise regulations establishing in
12 furtherance of the hepatitis C screening or hepatitis C diagnostic test requirements under
13 subsection (b).

14 (d) Such regulations required under subsection (c) shall include: (i) the frequency with
15 which a primary care provider must offer a hepatitis C screening test or hepatitis C diagnostic
16 test; and (ii) fines and/or penalties for non-compliance with such regulations.

17 (e) The Department shall promulgate the initial regulations required under subsection (c)
18 and (d) not later than October 1, 2021.