

**SENATE . . . . . No. 576**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Benjamin B. Downing***

*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 hospitals serving aging populations.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Benjamin B. Downing*

*Marjorie C. Decker*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and  
Hampden*

*25th Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 576**

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By Mr. Downing, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 576) of Benjamin B. Downing and Marjorie C. Decker for legislation relative to hospitals serving aging populations. Health Care Financing.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act relative to hospitals serving aging populations.

*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 65 of said Chapter 118E, as so appearing is hereby amended by  
2 inserting after the second paragraph the following paragraph:-

3 Disproportionate share hospitals located in counties with a percentage of the population  
4 65 years or older in excess of the state average by five percent or more shall receive 50% of the  
5 Public Service Hospital Safety Net Care Payments available. For the purposes of this section, the  
6 percentage of the population at age 65 or older of any county shall be that enumerated in the  
7 most recent federal census. Providers designated as critical access hospitals shall not be subject  
8 to the provisions of this section.