

HOUSE No. 1544

By Representative Khan of Newton and Senator Tolman, joint petition of Kay Khan and others relative to health services in Massachusetts correctional institutions, houses of correction and jails. The Judiciary.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Kay Khan	Thomas M. Stanley
Steven A. Tolman	Alice Hanlon Peisch
Stephen M. Brewer	Christine E. Canavan
Peter V. Kocot	Gloria L. Fox
Susan C. Tucker	

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO HEALTH SERVICES IN MASSACHUSETTS CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTIONS, HOUSES OF CORRECTION AND JAILS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 127 of the General Laws as appearing in the 2004 Offi-
2 cial Edition is hereby amended by inserting after Section 17 the
3 following sections:—
4 Section 17A. Notwithstanding any general or special law to con-
5 trary, in order to provide for improved medical treatment for those
6 incarcerated in Massachusetts' prisons and jails by creating guide-
7 lines for health services, accessing cost containment measures, inte-
8 grating healthcare during incarceration into the existing continuum
9 of care in our state, health services shall provide inmates with drug
10 treatment and rehabilitation and any other medical treatments to suc-
11 cessfully complete said drug treatment and rehabilitation. Further,
12 the commissioner of correction and the directors of the county facili-
13 ties shall review the training of prison personnel and, where neces-
14 sary, shall improve said training to include training on the ability to
15 recognize an inmate's potential need for medical care and facilitate
16 such services.

17 Section 17B. All health services for inmates shall include high
18 quality health care while leveraging cost containment measures to
19 the extent that the Commonwealth authorizes them as part of any
20 other state healthcare program including but not limited to bulk pur-
21 chasing of prescription medication, uniform billing, contracting with
22 non-profit providers, prevention services and leveraging of better
23 service prices through joint negotiation and pooling of consumers.