



June 18, 2019



Senator Julian Cyr, Chair
Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery
24 Beacon Street
Room 309 – State House
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Middlesex County Restoration Center Commission

Dear Senator Cyr:

We write as the co-chairs of the Middlesex County Restoration Center Commission ("Commission") established under *An Act Relative to Criminal Justice Reform*, Chapter 69 of the Acts of 2018 ("Act"). The Act directs the Commission to "plan and implement a county restoration center and program to divert persons suffering from mental illness or substance use disorder who interact with law enforcement or the court system during a pre-arrest investigation of the pre-adjudication process from lock-up facilities and hospital emergency departments to appropriate treatment." The Act further directs the Commission to report on its findings and recommendations to each of you. The Act directs that the report contain drafts of legislation necessary to carry out those recommendations, including "a report on the current capacity to provide behavioral health services to individuals suffering from mental illness or substance use disorder, which shall include, but not be limited to, the type of services pre-arrest, pre-release and post-release, location of services, types of patients served and barriers to diverting individuals away from the criminal justice system and into treatment." We are pleased to share the Commission's report on its year one activities attached to this letter.

Sincerely,

A stylized blue ink signature of Peter J. Koutoujian.

Co-chair Peter J. Koutoujian
Sheriff
Middlesex County

A stylized blue ink signature of Danna Mauch.

Co-chair Danna Mauch
President and CEO



cc: Senator Cindy F. Friedman and Representative Kenneth Gordon, Commission members
Governor Charles D. Baker
Senate Committee on Ways and Means Chair Senator Michael J. Rodrigues
House Committee on Ways and Means Chair Aaron Michlewitz
Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery Chair Representative Marjorie C. Decker
Secretary Marylou Sudders, Executive Office of Health and Human Services
Secretary Thomas Turco, Executive Office of Public Safety and Security