

By Mr. Caron of Springfield, petition of Paul E. Caron relative to the screening of patients for placement in long-term care facilities. Health Care.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and One.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DISCHARGE OF CERTAIN PATIENTS.

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

1 Notwithstanding any law or regulation to the contrary, any hos-
2 pital licensed by the Department of Public Health or the Depart-
3 ment of Mental Health, that for only on a holiday, weekend or
4 some other period that is not during normal business hours, dis-
5 charges a patient from its care and refers said patient to a long
6 term care facility licensed by the Department of Public Health,
7 shall be responsible for ensuring that prior to the patient's dis-
8 charge from the hospital, that said patient has been duly screened
9 by the patient's provider of health insurance and received both
10 clinical and payment approval for placement in a long term care
11 facility. If said approval is not approved prior to the discharge of
12 the patient to the long term care facility, then the health care
13 facility from which the patient was discharged, shall be respon-
14 sible for paying the long term care facility for the services pro-
15 vided to the patient.

