

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 2101**

By Mr. Koutoujian of Waltham, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2101) of Peter J. Koutoujian and Denise Provost for legislation to require that health care providers and first responders receive certain education and training. Public Health.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Peter J. Koutoujian**

*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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to health care providers and first responders education.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Peter J. Koutoujian  
Denise Provost

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

10th Middlesex  
27th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS AND FIRST RESPONDERS EDUCATION.

*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. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 70G  
2 the following sections:-

3 Section 70H. No health care provider who is licensed or registered pursuant to Chapter 112 of  
4 the General Laws shall obtain a license or registration, or renewal of said license or registration,  
5 unless the health care provider has demonstrated that he or she has received appropriate training  
6 and continuing education on HIV/AIDS counseling and testing, the diagnosis and treatment of  
7 HIV disease, and infection control and universal precautions.

8 Section 70I. Every health care facility and every agency or department of the commonwealth or  
9 subdivision thereof which has care or custody responsibilities shall provide training to  
10 appropriate staff as to the rights, counseling and care of persons diagnosed with HIV or AIDS  
11 and on implementation of infection control and universal precautions.

12 Every vendor receiving state contracts for the provision of health care, social or mental health  
13 services, where the vendor receives fifty per cent or more of its operating budget through  
14 contracts with the state, shall implement plans and provide training and continuing education of  
15 staff on HIV/AIDS, including basic information on medical and psychosocial issues related to  
16 HIV/AIDS, legal issues affecting individuals with HIV/AIDS, and infection control and  
17 universal precautions.

18 The department shall develop regulations to implement this section, including requirements  
19 governing the persons to be trained and the content and frequency of the training.

20 SECTION 2. Chapter 111C is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

21 Section 25. HIV and AIDS Education and Training.

22 (a) The Department of Public Health, in consultation with the Executive Office of Public Safety,  
23 shall within sixty days develop educational materials and a training curriculum for first  
24 responders as defined in chapter one hundred eleven, section 201 ambulance operators and  
25 attendants, emergency medical technicians, emergency paramedics, correction officers and court  
26 officers on reducing the risk of transmission of the human immunodeficiency virus through  
27 unprotected exposure. Such information and education shall include rights, counseling and care  
28 of persons living with HIV or AIDS, routes of transmission, universal precautions, infection  
29 control, possible types of exposure and the relative risk associated with each type, current law  
30 and regulations on the use of unprotected exposure trip form or incident report, recommendations  
31 for action following an unprotected exposure capable of transmitting a blood borne disease such  
32 as HIV.

33 Employers shall ensure that all first responders, ambulance operators and attendants, emergency  
34 medical technicians, emergency paramedics, correction officers and court officers receive such  
35 training in accordance with guidelines of the department. Employers shall make available paid  
36 leave for all such employees to attend the training. The department shall make available  
37 training, equipment, and materials to persons responsible for providing the training to all first  
38 responders, ambulance operators and attendants, emergency medical technicians, emergency  
39 paramedics, correction officers and court officers.

40 (b) All employers of first responders, ambulance operators and attendants, emergency medical  
41 technicians, emergency paramedics, correction officers and court officers shall develop and  
42 implement trainings on and policies for the use of appropriate universal precautions and shall  
43 provide, at no charge, necessary infection control equipment and materials, including but not  
44 limited to gloves, gowns, masks, mouthpieces, protective eyewear, and resuscitation  
45 masks. Such equipment and materials shall be made available in adequate supply and in clean  
46 working order. Such equipment and materials shall be carried on appropriate state, county, and  
47 municipal vehicles in accordance with guidelines of the department.

48 Such employers shall reduce the risk of exposure to hazardous or infectious medical or biological  
49 wastes by complying with department regulations for the storage and disposal of such wastes.