

HOUSE No. 2138

By Ms. Provost of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2138) of Denise Provost and others that the Department of Public Health develop "checklists of care" for hospitals to prevent medical errors and reduce infection rates. Public Health.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Denise Provost

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 to improve the delivery of Health Care.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Frank I. Smizik	15th Norfolk
Mary E. Grant	6th Essex
John W. Scibak	2nd Hampshire
Stephen Kulik	1st Franklin
Ellen Story	3rd Hampshire
Elizabeth A. Malia	11th Suffolk
Susan C. Tucker	Second Essex and Middlesex
Steven J. D'Amico	4th Bristol
Tom Sannicandro	7th Middlesex
David B. Sullivan	6th Bristol
Paul McMurtry	11th Norfolk
William Lantigua	16th Essex
Barbara A. L'Italien	18th Essex
Sean Garballey	23rd Middlesex
Cory Atkins	14th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO IMPROVE THE DELIVERY OF HEALTH CARE.

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 2. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 53G
2 the following section:-

3 Section 53H. As used in this section the following words shall, unless the context clearly requires
4 otherwise, have the following meanings:-

5 “Checklist of Care”, steps to be taken by a team of healthcare providers to decrease patient harm during a
6 given procedure.

7 “Medical error”, the failure of medical management of a planned action to be completed as intended or
8 the use of a wrong plan to achieve an outcome.

9 The Department of Public Health shall promulgate regulations for the development and implementation
10 of checklists of care that hospitals shall use to prevent medical errors and reduce healthcare-associated
11 infection rates. The department may require hospitals to report annually on their use of the checklists.

12 The department shall promulgate regulations to enforce the provisions of this section no later than
13 December 31, 2010.