

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 01478**

---

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Linda Dorcena Forry*

*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 the Promotion of Breastfeeding in Hospitals.

PETITION OF:

| NAME:                      | DISTRICT/ADDRESS:      |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i> | <i>12th Suffolk</i>    |
| <i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>  | <i>37th Middlesex</i>  |
| <i>Cory Atkins</i>         | <i>14th Middlesex</i>  |
| <i>Ellen Story</i>         | <i>3rd Hampshire</i>   |
| <i>Thomas M. Menino</i>    | <i>Mayor of Boston</i> |

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 01478

By Ms. Forry of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1478) of Linda Dorcena Forry and others for legislation to develop a comprehensive breastfeeding promotion policy. Public Health.

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

An Act Relative to the Promotion of Breastfeeding in Hospitals.

*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, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is  
2 hereby amended by inserting after section 53D, the following section:-
- 3 Any hospital licensed under section 51 and designated by the department as providing a maternal  
4 and newborn service shall take the following steps to promote breastfeeding:
- 5 (a) Develop and submit to the department a comprehensive breastfeeding promotion policy,  
6 including but not limited to the hospital's clinical practice guidelines, educational efforts in  
7 support of breastfeeding, and discharge planning for breastfeeding mothers;
- 8 (b) Post and provide to all mothers the hospital's breastfeeding mother's bill of rights; and
- 9 (c) Require training for maternal and newborn service hospital staff in breastfeeding education  
10 and support.

11 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Massachusetts  
12 department of public health, in consultation with the Massachusetts perinatal advisory  
13 committee, shall publish a model hospital breastfeeding policy and a “breastfeeding mother’s bill  
14 of rights” for use in hospitals with a maternal and newborn service.