

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4749**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Christopher Hendricks***

*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act providing worker compensation protection to emergency response and medical personnel related to COVID-19 infection.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Tram T. Nguyen</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>
<i>Patrick Joseph Kearney</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>William L. Crocker, Jr.</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Gerard J. Cassidy</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>
<i>Alyson M. Sullivan</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>
<i>Patricia A. Haddad</i>	<i>5th Bristol</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>

<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Antonio F. D. Cabral</i>	<i>13th Bristol</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Maria Duaima Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Peter Capano</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>
<i>John Barrett, III</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Marcos A. Devers</i>	<i>16th Essex</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Tami L. Gouveia</i>	<i>14th Middlesex</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>
<i>Timothy R. Whelan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>John H. Rogers</i>	<i>12th Norfolk</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>
<i>Alan Silvia</i>	<i>7th Bristol</i>

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By Mr. Hendricks of New Bedford, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Christopher Hendricks and others relative to workers' compensation benefits for certain emergency response and medical personnel related to COVID-19 infection. Labor and Workforce Development.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act providing worker compensation protection to emergency response and medical personnel related to COVID-19 infection.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide forthwith extended workers' compensation benefits for certain emergency personnel in response to the public health emergency presented by the spread of COVID-19, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health.

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

1 Chapter 152 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 7G the  
2 following section:

3 Section 7H: In any claim for compensation where the employee has been diagnosed with  
4 COVID-19, it shall be prima facie evidence that (i) the employee was performing his or her  
5 regular duties at the time of contracting COVID-19; (ii) the claim comes within the provisions of  
6 this chapter; and (iii) sufficient notice of the injury has been given. This section shall apply to  
7 persons employed as emergency medical technicians, emergency room and urgent care medical  
8 personnel, and emergency room and urgent care non-medical staff.