

SENATE No. 1203

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul W. Mark

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 to establish a hospital and community health center worker minimum wage.

PETITION OF:

| NAME: | DISTRICT/ADDRESS: | |
|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| <i>Paul W. Mark</i> | <i>Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and Hampshire</i> | |
| <i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i> | <i>7th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/13/2023</i> |
| <i>Michael O. Moore</i> | <i>Second Worcester</i> | <i>2/13/2023</i> |
| <i>James K. Hawkins</i> | <i>2nd Bristol</i> | <i>2/13/2023</i> |
| <i>Vanna Howard</i> | <i>17th Middlesex</i> | <i>2/13/2023</i> |
| <i>Susannah M. Whipps</i> | <i>2nd Franklin</i> | <i>2/14/2023</i> |
| <i>James B. Eldridge</i> | <i>Middlesex and Worcester</i> | <i>2/21/2023</i> |

SENATE No. 1203

By Mr. Mark, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1203) of Paul W. Mark, Jack Patrick Lewis, Michael O. Moore, James K. Hawkins and other members of the General Court for legislation to establish a hospital and community health center worker minimum wage. Labor and Workforce Development.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court
(2023-2024)**

An Act to establish a hospital and community health center worker minimum wage.

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 Massachusetts General Laws is hereby further amended
2 by adding the following new section:

3 Section 51W

4 For the purposes of this section the following words shall, unless the context clearly
5 requires otherwise, have the following meanings:

6 "Covered Hospital Facility" shall mean a hospital licensed under section 51 of this
7 chapter, the teaching hospital of the University of Massachusetts medical school, any licensed
8 private or state-owned and state-operated general acute care hospital, psychiatric hospital, acute
9 care specialty hospital, any acute care unit within a state-operated healthcare facility, or a
10 medium-security state correctional facility for male inmates located in Plymouth County that is
11 operated and maintained by a private company under contract with the Department of

12 Corrections. For purposes of this section, a covered acute care hospital facility shall not include
13 rehabilitation facilities, skilled nursing facilities, other long-term care facilities, or any other
14 Massachusetts correctional facilities.

15 “Covered Community Health Center” a health center operating in conformance with the
16 requirements of Section 330 of United States Public Law 95–626, including all community
17 health centers which file cost reports as requested by the center for health information and
18 analysis, and including community health centers affiliated with a hospital licensed under section
19 51 of this chapter.

20 “Covered Community Health Center Worker” shall mean all personnel employed by or
21 contracted to work at a community health center including but not limited to physicians,
22 registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, unlicensed assistive personnel, service, maintenance,
23 clerical, professional, and technical workers, and all other health care workers.

24 "Covered Hospital Worker" shall mean all personnel employed by or contracted to work
25 at a covered hospital facility, including but not limited to physicians, registered nurses, licensed
26 practical nurses, unlicensed assistive personnel, service, maintenance, clerical, professional and
27 technical workers, and all other health care workers.

28 (b) Notwithstanding any special or general law to the contrary, as a condition of state
29 licensure and as a condition of receiving rate reimbursement from the Division of Medical
30 Assistance, each covered community health center, and covered hospital shall directly
31 compensate or otherwise ensure minimum compensation for each covered hospital worker and
32 covered community health center worker at a rate of no less than 150% of the statewide

33 minimum hourly wage as established in section 1 of chapter 151 of the Massachusetts General
34 Laws.

35 (c) The Executive Office of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the
36 department of public health and the division of medical assistance, shall promulgate rules and
37 regulations needed to implement and enforce this section, within 180 days of the passage of this
38 act.