

HOUSE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven M. Walsh

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 Requiring Pain Management and Prescription Drug Abuse Training For Prescribing Medical and Healthcare Providers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Steven M. Walsh

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

11th Essex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT REQUIRING PAIN MANAGEMENT AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE TRAINING FOR PRESCRIBING MEDICAL AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS.

*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. Section 18 of Chapter 94C of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting the following subsection (e):
3 (e) Prescribing practitioners seeking to obtain or renew a Massachusetts professional license shall be
4 required to demonstrate completion of no less than 8 hours of training for physicians and 2 hours of
5 training for all other prescribing practitioners in effective pain management, including identification of
6 patients at high risk for substance abuse and other aspects of prescription medication abuse. Professional
7 licensing boards may count these hours as part of their regular continuing education licensing
8 requirements. The Department of Public Health shall assist professional education organizations in
9 developing programs that achieve the stated purposes, which programs shall qualify toward the
10 satisfaction of continuing professional education licensing requirements.