

Justification and Senate 577 as filed.

Justification for SB 577

An Act Requiring Ambulatory Surgicenters and Clinical Laboratories to Serve MassHealth Enrollees

The proposed legislation would ensure that the other key components of the outpatient health care delivery system serve MassHealth enrollees. ASCs and clinical laboratories provide many of the same outpatient services typically provided by hospitals, but frequently serve only Medicare beneficiaries and private pay patients. MassHealth enrollees can be served on a cost effective basis in alternative settings to hospitals for a wide variety of services, benefiting the MassHealth program. Moreover, MassHealth enrollees deserve a broad array of choices of locations from which to obtain their outpatient care. In addition, in order to remain financially sound, hospitals need to serve a diversified patient base in terms of the proportion of government to private health care beneficiaries. As ASCs and commercial labs provide more and more hospital level services, hospitals are serving a disproportionate number of MassHealth beneficiaries. The proposed legislation levels the playing field, reduces MassHealth expenditures, increases consumer options and strengthens community hospitals.

SENATE No. 577

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Robert A. O'Leary

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 Ambulatory Surgicenters and Clinical Laboratories to Serve MassHealth Enrollees.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Robert A. O'Leary	Cape and Islands
Cleon H. Turner	1st Barnstable
Sarah K. Peake	4th Barnstable
Christine E. Canavan	10th Plymouth

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT REQUIRING AMBULATORY SURGICENTERS AND CLINICAL LABORATORIES TO SERVE MASSHEALTH ENROLLEES .

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

SECTION 1. Notwithstanding any general or special law or regulation to the contrary, the department of public health shall require as a condition of licensure of ambulatory surgery centers and clinical laboratories that such entities contract with the executive office of health and human services to participate as providers of MassHealth.