

## **Justification and Senate 569 as filed.**

### **Justification for SB 569**

#### ***An Act to Support Primary Care Recruitment by Community Hospitals***

The proposed legislation establishes a Primary Care Development Fund using an existing funding source – the surplus contained in the Commonwealth’s Health Safety Net Fund. The new fund would provide grants to community hospitals to aid in physician recruitment and retention activities thereby helping to ensure primary care physician access in their communities. There is a documented shortage of primary care physicians – particularly with more individuals insured under universal health insurance. Moreover, the effort required to identify, recruit and retain such individuals is a significant drain on scarce community hospitals resources during these difficult economic times.

**SENATE . . . . . No. 569**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Richard T. Moore**

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*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 to Support Primary Care Recruitment by Community Hospitals.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Richard T. Moore	Worcester and Norfolk
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

## AN ACT TO SUPPORT PRIMARY CARE RECRUITMENT BY COMMUNITY 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. Section 57 of Chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-  
3 (c) Fifty percent of the surplus, if any, of the fund shall be transferred annually into a primary  
4 care development fund to be administered by the health care workforce center established  
5 pursuant to section 25L of chapter 111 of the general laws. Funds may also be transferred into  
6 said fund during the fiscal year on a rolling basis to the extent there is an existing surplus during  
7 such time. The center shall develop grant award criteria for the purpose of funding community  
8 hospital primary care physician recruitment and retention activities.