

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

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Sal N. DiDomenico***

*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 benefit the health safety net trust fund.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Barbara L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>

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By Mr. DiDomenico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 569) of Sal N. DiDomenico, Barbara L'Italien, Michael O. Moore, Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr. and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to the health safety net trust fund. Health Care Financing.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act to benefit the health safety net trust fund.

*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. The Center for Health Information and Analysis shall amend the Health  
2 Safety Net Payments and Funding regulations (114.6 CMR 14.00) in order to increase the  
3 revenue available for provider payments and to reduce the Health Safety Net fund’s shortfall  
4 amount. Such amendment shall:

5           a) Establish a new Large Physician Organizations Assessment that creates a \$20,000,000  
6 annual liability for independent physician organizations with more than 500 physician members  
7 that is not a corporate affiliate of or otherwise controlled by a licensed acute care hospital. A  
8 physician organization - whether a parent physician group or a local practice group as defined by  
9 the Center for Health Information and Analysis - shall be considered independent, however  
10 organized, so long as such practice is owned and controlled by one or more of the practitioners  
11 so associated. Such independent physician organizations shall be exempt from liability for this  
12 new assessment if their percentage of gross billed charges for services reimbursed by the state

13 Office of Medicaid is equal to or greater than 15% of their total gross billed charges for that  
14 fiscal year.

15           b) Ensure that such Large Physician Organizations who contribute to the Health Safety  
16 Net under subsection (a) are reimbursed for uncompensated care in a manner consistent with  
17 payments made to hospitals and community health centers under 114.6 CMR 14.00, the  
18 Massachusetts Section 1115 Demonstration Waiver governing safety net care, or any other  
19 federally required limit on payments under 42 U.S.C.1396a(a)(13) or 42 CFR 447.