

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2371

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Christine P. Barber*

*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 removing barriers to care for physician assistants.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/13/2025</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>	<i>3/5/2025</i>
<i>Patricia A. Duffy</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>	<i>2/13/2025</i>
<i>Michael J. Finn</i>	<i>6th Hampden</i>	<i>2/21/2025</i>
<i>Judith A. Garcia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/3/2025</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/4/2025</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>2/18/2025</i>
<i>Christopher M. Markey</i>	<i>9th Bristol</i>	<i>2/12/2025</i>
<i>John J. Marsi</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>	<i>2/12/2025</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>	<i>2/21/2025</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>	<i>2/18/2025</i>
<i>Samantha Montañó</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/10/2025</i>
<i>Adrienne Pusateri Ramos</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>	<i>3/6/2025</i>
<i>Steven George Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>2/22/2025</i>

# HOUSE . . . . . No. 2371

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By Representative Barber of Somerville, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2371) of Christine P. Barber and others relative to the licensing, supervision and scope of practice of physicians assistants. Public Health.

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## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court  
(2025-2026)  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act removing barriers to care for physician assistants.

*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 second sentence of the first paragraph of Section 51J of Chapter 111 of  
2 the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after the word “practitioner” the following  
3 words: - or physician assistant.

4           SECTION 2. The first sentence of the third paragraph of subsection (g) of section 7 of  
5 chapter 94C of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the words “pursuant to  
6 guidelines mutually developed and agreed upon by the supervising physician and the physician  
7 assistant”.

8           SECTION 3. The second sentence of the third paragraph of subsection (g) of section 7 of  
9 chapter 94C of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the words “, the board of  
10 registration in medicine”.

SECTION 4. Section 9E of chapter 112 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the first and second paragraphs and inserting in place thereof the following paragraphs:-

Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a physician assistant may perform medical services when such services are within the education, training and experience of the physician assistant and which the physician assistant is competent to perform.

Physician assistants, depending upon their level of professional training and experience, may perform medical services of a general nature and may order tests and therapeutics.

SECTION 5. Said section 9E of said chapter 112 of the General Laws, is hereby further amended striking out the fourth and fifth paragraphs and inserting in place thereof the following paragraphs:-

The legal responsibility of the physician assistant shall remain that of the individual physician assistant, employing physician, group of physicians, or healthcare facility as part of the health care team responsible for the care and treatment of the patient.

Notwithstanding any provision of law or regulation to the contrary, services provided by a physician assistant consistent with their scope of practice shall be covered by insurers and other payers if the same service is covered if provided by a physician. When appropriate, a physician assistant shall be identified as the provider in the bill and claims process when services have been provided directly by the physician assistant. A physician assistant may bill an insurer or other payer directly and receive direct payment for the delivery of medically necessary services. An insurer or other payer shall not impose a practice, education, or collaboration requirement that is inconsistent with or more restrictive than required by statute or regulation.

SECTION 6. Section 9F of said chapter 112 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

The board shall require as a condition of granting or renewing a physician assistant's certificate of registration that a physician assistant shall practice for at least 2,000 hours, within the context of a collaborative agreement, within a hospital or integrated clinical setting where physician assistants and physicians work together to provide patient care. The physician assistant shall submit written evidence of such practice to the board with the application, or upon completion of the required collaborative practice experience. A collaborative agreement is a mutually agreed upon plan for the overall working relationship between the physician assistant and one or more physicians that designates the scope of collaboration necessary to manage the care of patients. The physician assistant and collaborating physician or physicians must have experience in providing care to patients with the same or similar medical problems.

SECTION 7. The second sentence of the third paragraph of said section 9F of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by striking out the words “, in consultation with the board of registration in medicine, and consistent with the authority of the board of registration in medicine over the supervising physician and the practice of medicine,”.

SECTION 8. The third sentence of the third paragraph section 9I of chapter 112 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the words “and the name and address of any supervising physician”.

SECTION 9. The second sentence of the fourth paragraph of said section 9I of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by striking out the words “, change of supervising physician”.

54           SECTION 10. The first sentence of section 12B of chapter 112 of the General Laws is  
55 hereby amended by striking out the words “or supervising”.

56           SECTION 11. The board of registration of physician assistants shall amend its  
57 regulations at 263 CMR 5.05 to be consistent with this act.