



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

PAUL HEROUX
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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RE: H1167 An Act to improve public safety by facilitating access to addiction services
DT: 13 October 2015

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on the Judiciary,

Thank you for hearing *H1167, An Act to improve public safety by facilitating access to addiction services* before your committee on October 14th.

This bill would require that at intake, an individual entering either a jail or prison would receive an evaluation to determine a potential history of substance abuse. Treatment would then be offered through a variety of sources including volunteers from community recovery programs. Many who enter the prison system have a history of substance abuse that may be the root cause of their illicit activity that resulted in their confinement. Treating that addiction is a step towards rehabilitating that person.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that *H1167, An Act to improve public safety by facilitating access to addiction services* be released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Heroux".

Paul Heroux