SENATE DOCKET, NO. 484 FILED ON: 1/16/2013

SENATE . . . . . No. 559

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Anthony W. Petruccelli

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:

An Act relative to program notification.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Anthony W. Petruccelli	*First Suffolk and Middlesex*
Sal N. DiDomenico	*Middlesex and Suffolk*

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SENATE . . . . . No. 559

By Mr. Petruccelli, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 559) of Anthony W. Petruccelli and Sal N. DiDomenico for legislation relative to program notification of MassHealth applicants. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to program notification.

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 to the contrary the Commonwealth shall inform eligible MassHealth members of the option to enroll in a Senior Care Option (SCO) program or Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) at the time of application for MassHealth benefits. Prospective applicants shall be informed of the option and differential benefits that would be gained by enrolling in a SCO or PACE program. Any notice or mailings to MassHealth members not already enrolled in SCO or PACE regarding MassHealth benefit changes shall include information relative to the option to enroll in SCO or PACE with specific reference to the member benefits and financial savings gained by enrollment. Any notice or mailings to MassHealth members not already enrolled in SCO or PACE regarding redeterminations shall include information about the option to enroll in SCO or PACE with specific reference to the member benefits and member financial savings gained by enrollment. MassHealth eligibles not enrolled in SCO or PACE should be informed at least one time per year via a mailing or other means of the option to enroll in SCO or PACE with specific reference to the member benefits and member financial savings gained by enrollment. Senior Health Information Needs of Elders (SHINE) counselors and other publicly funded Information and Referral counselors shall be oriented to and required to share information with eligible MassHealth members about the right to enroll in SCO or PACE and the member benefits and member financial savings associated with SCO or PACE membership. State agencies serving MassHealth members or otherwise in contact with MassHealth members aged 55 years and over shall have SCO and PACE information available and provided to them by the commonwealth.