



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS® OF MASSACHUSETTS

133 Portland Street, Boston, MA 02114 • Tel: 617-523-2999 • Fax: 617-248-0881
E Mail: lwwma@lwwma.org • Website: www.lwwma.org

Testimony In support of H.3843 – Patient Safety Act
and
H.3844 – Hospital Transparency and Fairness Act

Submitted to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing
By Judith Deutsch, LWVMA Specialist on Health Care
March 24, 2014

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts supports both the Patient Safety Act (H.3843) and Hospital Transparency and Fairness Act (H.3844).

We support the Patient Safety Act (H.3843) because:

- the League supports quality health care for all residents;
- the League supports the accreditation of institutions that assure competence and reasonable standards in the practice of health care;
- the passage and implementation of this bill would enforce such standards; and
- it would prevent the currently frequent occurrences in which there are an insufficient number of nurses on duty to provide quality care.

For these reasons we urge you to pass this bill favorably from your Committee and work to see that it is passed by the General Court and then implemented. Patients deserve no less.

We support the Hospital Transparency and Fairness Act (H.3844) because:

- the League supports citizen participation in monitoring, and knowledge of the use of public funds;
- since all hospitals receive a substantial portion of their money from public funds, including Medicare and Medicaid, the public deserves to know how hospital funds are allocated.

Thus we are strongly in favor of Section 4 of H.3844 that states:

Each facility that accepts funds from the Commonwealth shall report annually to the Center for Health Information and Analysis all financial assets owned by the facility, including those held in financial institutions outside the United States or invested outside the United States.

For these reasons we urge you to pass this bill favorably from your committee and work to see that it is passed by the General Court and then implemented. The taxpayers deserve no less.