



Executive Office

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March 3, 2020

The Honorable Ronald Mariano  
24 Beacon Street, Room 343  
Boston, MA 02133

**RE: ASPS supports H.1964**

Dear Representative Mariano:

I am writing on behalf of the American Society of Plastic Surgeons (ASPS) in support of H.1964, which would codify the definition of surgery in Massachusetts. ASPS is the largest association of plastic surgeons in the world, representing more than 7,000 members and 93 percent of all board-certified plastic surgeons in the United States. Our mission is to advance quality care for plastic surgery patients and promote public policy that protects patient safety.

If H.1964 is enacted, Massachusetts would define surgery in a manner that is consistent with the definition drafted by the American College of Surgeons and the American Medical Association (AMA).<sup>1</sup> ASPS strongly believes that the scope and definition of surgery should be evaluated and codified in a manner that ensures the practice of surgery is limited to trained surgeons. Passage of this legislation would ensure that goal is met. Restricting the performance of surgery to allopathic and osteopathic physicians would ensure that all providers are held to the same, high standards and that patients are served by trained professionals who do not practice outside of a scope of practice appropriate for their training.

We thank you for introducing H.1964 and we encourage you to reach out if there is anything we can do to help advance this measure. Please do not hesitate to contact Patrick Hermes, Director of Advocacy and Government Relations, at [phermes@plasticsurgery.org](mailto:phermes@plasticsurgery.org) or (847) 228-3331 with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lynn Jeffers".

Lynn Jeffers, MD, MBA, FACS  
President, American Society of Plastic Surgeons

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<sup>1</sup> <https://policysearch.ama-assn.org/policyfinder/detail/surgery?uri=%2FAMADoc%2FHOD.xml-0-4317.xml>