

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1023**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Louis L. Kafka*

*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 relative to the health insurance of children of divorced parents.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Louis L. Kafka*

*8th Norfolk*

*James K. Hawkins*

*2nd Bristol*

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1023**

By Mr. Kafka of Stoughton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1023) of Louis L. Kafka and James K. Hawkins relative to the health insurance of children of divorced parents. Financial Services.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 548 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act relative to the health insurance of children of divorced parents.

*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. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, Chapter 1751  
2 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as appearing in the 1996 Official Edition, shall be amended  
3 by adding at the end thereof the following section:-

4 Section 23. If a child is covered under a health insurance policy issued to the child’s non-  
5 custodial parent, the issuer of the policy shall do all of the following:

6 Provide necessary information and/or documents to the child’s custodial parent or legal  
7 guardian to enable the child to obtain benefits under the health insurance policy.

8           Permit the child’s custodial parent or legal guardian (or the provider, with the custodial  
9 parent’s or legal guardian’s approval) to submit claims for payment for covered services without  
10 the approval of the non-custodial parent.

11           Make payments on claims submitted in accordance with paragraph (2) directly to the  
12 custodial parent or legal guardian, the provider of the health care services, or the state Medicaid  
13 agency.

14           Provide written notification of policy adjustment or termination to the child’s custodial  
15 parent or legal guardian concurrent with notification to the policyholder.