

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1058**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Ellen Story and John Hart, Jr.*

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 bill:

An Act relative to continuity of care for families enrolled in MassHealth.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>John Hart, Jr.</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balse</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>9th Plymouth</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Benjamin Swan</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carl M. Sciortino, Jr.</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>



**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1058**

By Ms. Story of Amherst and Senator Hart, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1058) of Ellen Story and others relative to continuity of care for families enrolled in MassHealth. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act relative to continuity of care for families enrolled in MassHealth.

*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. Chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
2 section 9F the following new section:-

3 Section 9G. Primary Care Assignments

4 (a) In the case of a MassHealth member under the age of 18 who is re-enrolled in  
5 MassHealth after a lapse in MassHealth coverage of less than 18-months duration, the office of  
6 medicaid shall make every effort to assign the child to the same primary care provider that either,  
7 in order of priority:

- 8 (1) The family had designated as the primary care provider of choice for the child; or
- 9 (2) The child had been assigned by MassHealth previously.

10 In all cases a more recent, active choice by the family of another primary care provider  
11 for the child shall take priority over any of the above.

12 (b) In the case of a newborn child enrolled in MassHealth who is born to, or adopted by a  
13 custodial parent with other children who are enrolled in MassHealth, the office of medicaid shall  
14 make every effort to assign the newborn child to the same primary care provider that sees the  
15 older children. In the event that the child’s older siblings are assigned to different primary care  
16 providers, the office of medicaid shall assign the child to the same primary care provider as the  
17 next youngest child. In all cases, the custodial parents' active choice of a different primary care  
18 provider shall be honored.

19           (c) Primary care assignments not meeting the criteria of subsections (a) and (b) above  
20 shall not prevent a child from seeing the provider to which they should have been assigned had  
21 this criteria been followed by MassHealth, and shall not prevent a primary care provider from  
22 being reimbursed for any visit that would have been reimbursed had the requirements of this  
23 section been met.