

HOUSE No. 1735

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Elizabeth A. Malia

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 providing equitable access to behavioral health services for MassHealth consumers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>John F. Keenan</i>	<i>Norfolk and Plymouth</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mathew J. Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>

HOUSE No. 1735

By Ms. Malia of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1735) of Elizabeth A. Malia and others relative to providing equitable access to behavioral health services for MassHealth consumers. Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2399 OF 2017-2018.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act providing equitable access to behavioral health services for MassHealth consumers.

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. Section 12 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of the ninth paragraph the following:-

3 The Division shall certify and ensure that all contracted accountable care organizations,
4 contracted health insurers, health plans, health maintenance organizations, and behavioral health
5 management firms and third party administrators under contract to a Medicaid managed care
6 organization or primary care clinician plan provide comparable access to behavioral health
7 services, benefits, and medications in providing medical assistance to recipients.

8 The Division shall obtain the approval of the Secretary of the Executive Office of Health
9 and Human Services for all behavioral health services, benefits, and medications, including but

10 not limited to policies, protocols, standards, contract specifications, utilization review and
11 utilization management criteria and outcome measurements, used by all contracted accountable
12 care organizations, contracted insurers, health plans, health maintenance organizations,
13 behavioral health management firms and third party administrators under contract to a Medicaid
14 managed care organization or primary care clinician plan.