

HOUSE No. 3463

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Aaron Vega

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 Children's Behavioral Health Initiative.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Carlos Gonzalez</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Bud Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

HOUSE No. 3463

By Mr. Vega of Holyoke, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3463) of Aaron Vega and others relative to certain behavioral health coverage for persons under twenty-one years of age . Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court
(2017-2018)**

An Act relative to the Children's Behavioral Health Initiative.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 Chapter 118E of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 10J,
2 inserted by section 2 of chapter 233 of the acts of 2016, the following section:-

3 Section 10K. A person younger than 21 years old who is receiving medical coverage
4 under this chapter, and who is receiving medically necessary, comprehensive, community-based
5 behavioral health services for a severe emotional disturbance as part of the children's behavioral
6 health initiative or medically necessary health services as part of a behavior management
7 treatment plan, shall receive, as part of such health services, targeted and responsive care from a
8 nurse specifically assigned to monitor and treat the behavioral and emotional needs of such
9 person. The division shall cover the cost of such care. For purposes of this section, the term
10 “nurse” shall include a registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse, a nurse practitioner or an
11 advanced practice nurse.