

HOUSE No. 03641

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Robert M. Koczera

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 health insurance coverage for Devic’s Disease.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Robert M. Koczera

11th Bristol

Mark C. Montigny

Second Bristol and Plymouth

HOUSE No. 03641

By Mr. Koczera of New Bedford, a petition (subject to Joint Rule 12) of Robert M. Koczera and Mark Montigny relative to health insurance coverage for Devic's disease. Financial Services.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand Eleven
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An Act relative to health insurance coverage for Devic's Disease.

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 . Chapter 175 of the general laws is hereby amended by adding the following

2 section:-

3 Section 47BB. No individual policy of accident and sickness insurance issued pursuant to
4 section 108, and no group blanket policy of accident and sickness insurance issued pursuant to
5 section 110, shall restrict or discontinue coverage for medically necessary treatments for persons
6 who have been diagnosed with neuromyelitis optica, also known as Devic's disease. The term
7 "medical necessity" shall be construed in accordance with the guidelines set forth in subsection
8 (b) of section 16 of chapter 176O.

9 SECTION . Chapter 176A of the general laws is hereby amended by adding the following

10 section:-

11 Section 8EE. No contract between a subscriber and the corporation under an individual or group
12 hospital service plan which is delivered, issued or renewed in the commonwealth shall restrict or
13 discontinue coverage for medically necessary treatments for persons who have been diagnosed
14 with neuromyelitis optica, also known as Devic's disease, to an individual or group subscribers
15 within the commonwealth and to a group subscriber having a principal place of employment
16 within the commonwealth, notwithstanding section 27 of chapter 94C. The term "medical
17 necessity" shall be construed in accordance with the guidelines set forth in subsection (b) of
18 section 16 of chapter 176O.

19 SECTION . Chapter 176G of the general laws is hereby amended by adding the following
20 section:-

21 Section 4W. No health maintenance organization shall restrict or discontinue coverage for
22 medically necessary treatments for persons who have been diagnosed with neuromyelitis optica,
23 also known as Devic's disease. The term "medical necessity" shall be construed in accordance
24 with the guidelines set forth in subsection (b) of section 16 of chapter 176O.