

SENATE No. 1125

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Harriette L. Chandler

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 cost reduction in the Medicaid program by improving early childhood oral health.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>
<i>John W. Scibak</i>	<i>2nd Hampshire</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Benjamin B. Downing</i>	<i>Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Barbara L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Byron Rushing</i>	<i>9th Suffolk</i>
<i>Bruce E. Tarr</i>	<i>First Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Timothy J. Toomey, Jr.</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>
<i>Diana DiZoglio</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>

Michael O. Moore

Second Worcester

Joan B. Lovely

Second Essex

SENATE No. 1125

By Ms. Chandler, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1125) of Harriette L. Chandler, John W. Scibak, Sal N. DiDomenico, Ruth B. Balser and other members of the General Court for legislation relative to the enhanced management of early childhood caries among MassHealth patients. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 994 OF 2013-2014.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**
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An Act relative to cost reduction in the Medicaid program by improving early childhood oral health.

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. The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS or Executive
2 Office) shall design a pilot program for the enhanced management of early childhood caries
3 among MassHealth patients. EOHHS shall consult with the researchers involved in the Early
4 Childhood Caries (ECC) Management Demonstration Project at Boston Children’s Hospital,
5 Holyoke Health Center and other sites, where feasible, on the criteria by which providers should
6 identify high risk of early childhood caries in patients under the age of five. EOHHS shall also
7 consult those researchers on the types and amount of treatment that should be billable to the
8 MassHealth program for effective management of the disease in those patients. These shall
9 include, but not be limited to: more frequent preventive visits and fluoride treatments, as well as

10 family education and training in self-management, as established by the researchers in the ECC
11 Management Demonstration Program in their early childhood caries disease management
12 protocol.

13 The Executive Office shall release a request for proposals with these design criteria no
14 later than February 1, 2016 and select provider participants no later than April 1, 2016, for a start
15 date no later than July 1, 2016. EOHHS shall widely publicize the request for proposals in the
16 provider community, including but not limited to its mention in a bulletin to all childhood dental
17 and pediatric primary care providers. Eligible entities shall include primary care providers co-
18 located in the same facility with oral health providers who see the same patients. To the extent
19 feasible, EOHHS shall select providers in both rural and urban areas in a wide geographic
20 distribution across the Commonwealth.

21 The selected providers must agree to submit their results relative to costs, the incidence
22 of cavities before and after use of the new protocol, the experience of pain before and after and
23 the number of referrals for operating room procedures. The Executive Office shall release a
24 report of those results to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing and the House and
25 Senate Committees on Ways and Means by February 1, 2019.