

SENATE No. 744

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Richard T. Moore

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 to Improve Access to Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Richard T. Moore	Worcester and Norfolk
Thomas M. McGee	Third Essex and Middlesex
Susan C. Tucker	Second Essex and Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

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 22 of Chapter 32A of the General Laws is hereby amended by
2 striking out the last paragraph, inserted by section 1 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and
3 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:--

4 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed
5 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed
6 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental
7 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
8 practice for such educational psychologist.

9 SECTION 2. Section 47B of Chapter 175 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
10 out the next to the last paragraph, inserted by section 2 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and
11 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:--

12 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed
13 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed

14 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental
15 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
16 practice for such educational psychologist.

17 SECTION 3. Section A of Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
18 the next to the last paragraph, inserted by section 4 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and
19 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:--

20 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed
21 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed
22 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental
23 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
24 practice for such educational psychologist.

25 SECTION 4. Section 4A of Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
26 out the next to the last paragraph, inserted by section 6 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and
27 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:--

28 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed
29 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed
30 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental
31 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
32 practice for such educational psychologist.

33 SECTION 5. Section 4M of Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking
34 out the next to the last paragraph, inserted by section 10 of chapter 80 to the acts of 2000, and
35 inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:--

36 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed
37 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed
38 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental
39 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of
40 practice for such educational psychologist.

41 SECTION 6. This act shall apply to all policies, contracts, agreements, plans and certificates of
42 insurance issued or delivered within or without the commonwealth on or after March 1, 2010,
43 and to all policies, contracts, agreements, plans and certificates of insurance in effect before that
44 date upon renewal or after March 1, 2010.