

HOUSE No. 2509

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Stephen Kulik

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 regarding municipal health insurance plans.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Stephen Kulik	1st Franklin
John W. Scibak	2nd Hampshire
William N. Brownsberger	24th Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT REGARDING MUNICIPAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS.

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. Chapter 32B of the general laws is hereby amended by adding the following new
2 section:

3 Section 20. Effective July 1, 2009, a governmental unit is authorized to include, as part of the health
4 plans (HMOs, PPOs, indemnity plans) that it offers to its employees and retirees, co-payments,
5 deductibles and tiered provider network co-payments (or other plan design features) that are no greater in
6 dollar amount than the highest co-payments, deductibles and tiered provider network co-payments (or
7 other plan design features) provided in any of the same class (HMOs, PPOs, indemnity plans) of health
8 plans offered by the Group Insurance Commission pursuant to G.L. c. 32A. For purposes of this section,
9 a “Point of Service” plan offered by a governmental unit shall be considered to fall within the PPO class.

10 The above authorized dollar amounts for co-payments, deductibles and tiered provider network co-
11 payments (or other plan design features) shall be increased whenever the Group Insurance Commission
12 increases the dollar amount of co-payments and/or deductibles and/or tiered provider network co-
13 payments (or other plan design features) on the health plans that it offers.

14 A governmental unit may include in its health plans co-payments, deductibles and tiered provider network
15 co-payments (or other plan design features) up to the above-referenced amounts without bargaining
16 pursuant to either Chapter 150E or Section 19 of Chapter 32B concerning the decision to do so or the
17 impact of the decision.

18 Nothing herein shall prohibit a governmental unit from including in its health plans higher co-payments,
19 deductibles or tiered provider network co-payments (or other plan design features) than those authorized
20 by the preceding paragraphs of this section; but such higher co-payments, deductibles or tiered provider
21 network co-payments (or other plan design features) may be included only after the governmental unit has
22 satisfied any bargaining obligations pursuant to either Chapter 150E or Section 19 of Chapter 32B.