

HOUSE No. 552

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Kay Khan

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 to increase access to nurse-midwifery services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Edward F. Coppinger</i>	<i>10th Suffolk</i>
<i>Brendan P. Crighton</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Solomon Goldstein-Rose</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>
<i>William Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>4th Berkshire</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jose F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Paul Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>

HOUSE No. 552

By Ms. Khan of Newton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 552) of Kay Khan and others for legislation requiring insurers to pay nurse midwives the same as physicians for the same service. Financial Services.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to increase access to nurse-midwifery 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 47E of Chapter 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
2 Official Edition is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence:

3 The reimbursement for the services provided shall be in the same amount as the
4 reimbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area
5 served. An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to
6 comply with this section.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding section
8 38:

9 Any contract between a subscriber and the corporation under an individual or group
10 hospital service plan delivered, issued or renewed in the commonwealth shall provide, as
11 benefits to all individual subscribers and members within the commonwealth and to all group
12 members having a principal place of employment within the commonwealth for services

13 rendered by a certified nurse midwife designated as such certified nurse midwife by the board of
14 registration in nursing pursuant to the provisions of section eighty C of chapter one hundred and
15 twelve; provided, however, that the following conditions are met: (1) the service rendered is
16 within the scope of the certified nurse midwife's authorization to practice by the board of
17 registration in nursing; (2) the policy or contract currently provides benefits for identical
18 services rendered by a provider of health care licensed by the commonwealth: and (3) the
19 reimbursement for the services provided shall be in the same amount as the reimbursement paid
20 under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area served. An insurer
21 may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to comply with this
22 section.

23 SECTION 3. Section 4G of Chapter 176B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014
24 Official Edition is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence:

25 The reimbursement for the services provided shall be in the same amount as the
26 reimbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area
27 served. An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to
28 comply with this section.

29 SECTION 4. Section 4 of Chapter 176 G is of the General Laws, as appearing in the
30 2014 Official Edition is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following subsection:

31 (h) services rendered by a certified nurse midwife pursuant to section eighty C of chapter
32 one hundred and twelve, subject to the terms of a negotiated agreement between the health
33 maintenance organization and the provider of health care services. The reimbursement for the
34 services provided shall be in the same amount as the reimbursement paid under the policy to a

- 35 licensed physician performing the service in the area served. An insurer may not reduce the
- 36 reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to comply with this section.