

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 901**

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*David Paul Linsky*

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 Lyme disease treatment coverage.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Todd M. Smola</i>	<i>1st Hampden</i>
<i>Joseph D. McKenna</i>	<i>18th Worcester</i>
<i>William Smitty Pignatelli</i>	<i>4th Berkshire</i>
<i>John V. Fernandes</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Peter V. Kocot</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Gailanne M. Cariddi</i>	<i>1st Berkshire</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>Geoff Diehl</i>	<i>7th Plymouth</i>
<i>Carolyn C. Dykema</i>	<i>8th Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas J. Calter</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kate Hogan</i>	<i>3rd Middlesex</i>

<i>Brian M. Ashe</i>	<i>2nd Hampden</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps Lee</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>
<i>Bradford R. Hill</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Josh S. Cutler</i>	<i>6th Plymouth</i>
<i>Dennis A. Rosa</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Claire D. Cronin</i>	<i>11th Plymouth</i>
<i>Ann-Margaret Ferrante</i>	<i>5th Essex</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>John W. Scibak</i>	<i>2nd Hampshire</i>
<i>James M. Murphy</i>	<i>4th Norfolk</i>
<i>Aaron Vega</i>	<i>5th Hampden</i>
<i>James Arciero</i>	<i>2nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Jerald A. Parisella</i>	<i>6th Essex</i>
<i>Louis L. Kafka</i>	<i>8th Norfolk</i>
<i>Frank A. Moran</i>	<i>17th Essex</i>
<i>Michelle M. DuBois</i>	<i>10th Plymouth</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>
<i>David K. Muradian, Jr.</i>	<i>9th Worcester</i>
<i>William C. Galvin</i>	<i>6th Norfolk</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jonathan D. Zlotnik</i>	<i>2nd Worcester</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>
<i>Kenneth I. Gordon</i>	<i>21st Middlesex</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>
<i>Sarah K. Peake</i>	<i>4th Barnstable</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Brian A. Joyce</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>
<i>Lori A. Ehrlich</i>	<i>8th Essex</i>
<i>Paul Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>
<i>Michael F. Rush</i>	<i>Norfolk and Suffolk</i>
<i>Mathew Muratore</i>	<i>1st Plymouth</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>
<i>Richard J. Ross</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>Shawn Dooley</i>	<i>9th Norfolk</i>
<i>Ellen Story</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>

<i>Timothy R. Madden</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>
<i>Keiko M. Orrall</i>	<i>12th Bristol</i>
<i>Walter F. Timilty</i>	<i>7th Norfolk</i>
<i>James J. Lyons, Jr.</i>	<i>18th Essex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Paul McMurtry</i>	<i>11th Norfolk</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jeffrey N. Roy</i>	<i>10th Norfolk</i>
<i>Karen E. Spilka</i>	<i>Second Middlesex and Norfolk</i>
<i>John C. Velis</i>	<i>4th Hampden</i>
<i>F. Jay Barrows</i>	<i>1st Bristol</i>
<i>David M. Nangle</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>
<i>Sheila C. Harrington</i>	<i>1st Middlesex</i>
<i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel A. Wolf</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Barbara L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>John J. Lawn, Jr.</i>	<i>10th Middlesex</i>
<i>Danielle W. Gregoire</i>	<i>4th Middlesex</i>
<i>Edward F. Coppinger</i>	<i>10th Suffolk</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Robert L. Hedlund</i>	<i>Plymouth and Norfolk</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Donald H. Wong</i>	<i>9th Essex</i>
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Viriato M. DeMacedo</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>
<i>Thomas M. Petrolati</i>	<i>7th Hampden</i>
<i>Anne M. Gobi</i>	<i>Worcester, Hampden, Hampshire and Middlesex</i>
<i>Harold P. Naughton, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Worcester</i>
<i>Marc T. Lombardo</i>	<i>22nd Middlesex</i>
<i>Leonard Mirra</i>	<i>2nd Essex</i>
<i>Angelo L. D'Emilia</i>	<i>8th Plymouth</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul A. Schmid, III</i>	<i>8th Bristol</i>

<i>Randy Hunt</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Shaunna L. O'Connell</i>	<i>3rd Bristol</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Donald R. Berthiaume, Jr.</i>	<i>5th Worcester</i>
<i>Leah Cole</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>
<i>Brian R. Mannal</i>	<i>2nd Barnstable</i>
<i>Elizabeth A. Poirier</i>	<i>14th Bristol</i>
<i>Kevin J. Kuros</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul K. Frost</i>	<i>7th Worcester</i>
<i>Patricia A. Haddad</i>	<i>5th Bristol</i>
<i>David T. Vieira</i>	<i>3rd Barnstable</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>John J. Mahoney</i>	<i>13th Worcester</i>
<i>Michael S. Day</i>	<i>31st Middlesex</i>
<i>Kathleen O'Connor Ives</i>	<i>First Essex</i>
<i>Jay R. Kaufman</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kate D. Campanale</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Linda Dean Campbell</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Alice Hanlon Peisch</i>	<i>14th Norfolk</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>
<i>Frank I. Smizik</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Nick Collins</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>
<i>James M. Kelcourse</i>	<i>1st Essex</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 901**

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By Mr. Linsky of Natick, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 901) of David Paul Linsky and others relative to Lyme disease treatment health insurance coverage. Financial Services.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act relative to Lyme disease treatment coverage.

*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 175 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
2 section 47DD, the following section:

3 Section 47EE.

4 (A) For the purposes of this Section, the terms “Lyme disease” and “long-term antibiotic  
5 therapy” are given the same definition as provided in M.G.L. Chapter 112, Section  
6 12DD.

7 (B) Any policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
8 renewed within the commonwealth that provides medical expense coverage shall provide  
9 coverage for long-term antibiotic therapy of Lyme disease when determined to be medically  
10 necessary and ordered by a licensed physician after making a thorough evaluation of the patient’s  
11 symptoms, diagnostic test results, or response to treatment. Long-term antibiotic therapy

12 otherwise eligible for benefits pursuant to this section shall not be denied solely because such  
13 treatment may be characterized as unproven, experimental, or investigational in nature.

14 SECTION 2. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
15 section 8FF the following section:-

16 Section 8GG. Any contract between a subscriber and the corporation under an individual  
17 or group hospital service plan which is delivered, issued or renewed within the commonwealth  
18 shall provide coverage for long-term antibiotic therapy of Lyme disease when determined to be  
19 medically necessary and ordered by a licensed physician after making a thorough evaluation of  
20 the patient's symptoms, diagnostic test results or response to treatment.

21 Treatment otherwise eligible for benefits pursuant to this section shall not be denied  
22 solely because such treatment may be characterized as unproven, experimental, or investigational  
23 in nature.

24 SECTION 4. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
25 section 4FF, the following section:-

26 Section 4GG. Any subscription certificate under an individual or group medical service  
27 agreement delivered, issued, or renewed within the commonwealth shall provide coverage for

28 long-term antibiotic therapy of Lyme disease when determined to be medically necessary  
29 and ordered by a licensed physician after making a thorough evaluation of the patient's  
30 symptoms, diagnostic test results or response to treatment. Treatment otherwise eligible for  
31 benefits pursuant to this section shall not be denied solely because such treatment may be  
32 characterized as unproven, experimental, or investigational in nature.

33 SECTION 5. Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after  
34 section 4X the following section:-

35 Section 4Y. Any individual or group health maintenance contract shall provide coverage  
36 for long-term antibiotic therapy of Lyme disease when determined to be medically  
37 necessary and ordered by a licensed physician after making a thorough evaluation of the patient's  
38 symptoms, diagnostic test results or response to treatment. Treatment otherwise eligible for  
39 benefits pursuant to this section shall not be denied solely because such treatment may be  
40 characterized as unproven, experimental, or investigational in nature.