

**SENATE . . . . . No. 500**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

***Linda Dorcena Forry***

*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 short-term disability insurance disclosure.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balse</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Kathleen O'Connor Ives</i>	<i>First Essex</i>
<i>Barbara L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Chris Walsh</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>

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By Ms. Forry, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 500) of Linda Dorcena Forry, Ruth B. Balser, Mary S. Keefe, James B. Eldridge and other members of the General Court for legislation to include childbirth under insurance policies providing for disability income. Financial Services.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 909 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 short-term disability insurance disclosure.

*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 47F of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in 2010  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended in line 10 after "surgical expense insurance," by inserting the  
3 following words:- or disability income insurance.

4 SECTION 2. Section 47F of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is further  
5 amended, at the end of the first paragraph, by inserting the following:-

6 Any policy of accidental or sickness insurance that provides coverage for disability  
7 income shall clearly indicate that pregnancy is an eligible disability, and shall clearly state the  
8 benefit periods associated with childbirth. Benefits related to a vaginal or caesarean birth shall  
9 begin immediately upon such birth and for vaginal births shall continue for a minimum of six

10 weeks and for caesarean births for a minimum of eight weeks, with no elimination period. All  
11 disclosures of pregnancy-related benefits must be made in compliance with regulations  
12 promulgated by the department of public health, including 211 CMR 42.00 et seq. Said  
13 regulations shall include requirements that pregnancy-related eligibility and benefits information  
14 be provided in all policies and plans and promotional materials for such policies and plans.