

**SENATE . . . . . No. 666**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Nick Collins*

*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 administering national standards to Medicaid medical necessity reviews.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Nick Collins*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*First Suffolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 666**

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By Mr. Collins, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 666) of Nick Collins for legislation to administer national standards to Medicaid medical necessity reviews. Health Care Financing.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act administering national standards to Medicaid medical necessity reviews.

*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 8 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2014  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended in line 3 by inserting after the words “meaning:” the  
3 following definitions:-

4           “Adverse determination”, a determination from a clinical peer reviewer, based upon a  
5 concurrent and retrospective medical review of information provided by a healthcare provider, to  
6 deny, reduce, modify, or terminate an admission, continued inpatient stay, or the availability of  
7 any other health care services, for failure to meet the requirements for coverage based on medical  
8 necessity, appropriateness of health care setting and level of care, or effectiveness.

9           “Clinical peer reviewer”, a physician or other health care professional, other than the  
10 physician or other health care professional who made the initial decision, who holds a non-  
11 restricted license from the appropriate professional licensing board in the commonwealth, a  
12 current board certification from a specialty board approved by the American Board of Medical

13 Specialties or the Advisory Board of Osteopathic Specialists from the major areas of clinical  
14 services or, for non-physician health care professionals, the recognized professional board for  
15 their specialty, who also actively practices in the same or similar specialty as typically manages  
16 the medical condition, procedure or treatment under review, and whose compensation does not  
17 directly or indirectly depend upon the quantity, type or cost of the services that such person  
18 approves or denies.

19 SECTION 2. Section 51 of said chapter 118E, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
20 inserting after the first paragraph the following new paragraph:

21 Upon making an adverse determination regarding an admission, continued inpatient stay,  
22 or the availability of any other health care services or procedure, the division shall provide a  
23 written notification of the adverse determination that shall include a substantive clinical  
24 justification that is consistent with generally accepted principles of professional medical practice,  
25 and shall, at a minimum: (1) identify the specific information upon which the adverse  
26 determination was based; (2) discuss the medical assistance recipient's presenting symptoms or  
27 condition, diagnosis and treatment interventions and the specific reasons based on national  
28 evidence based medical standards and criteria that such medical evidence fails to meet a national  
29 evidence based medical standard and criteria; (3) specify any alternative treatment option offered  
30 by the division, if any; and (4) reference and include applicable clinical practice guidelines and  
31 review criteria used in making the adverse determination. The division shall give a provider  
32 treating a medical assistance recipient an opportunity to seek reconsideration of an adverse  
33 determination. Said reconsideration process shall occur within one working day of the receipt of  
34 the request and shall be conducted between the provider rendering the service and the clinical  
35 peer reviewer or a clinical peer designated by the clinical peer reviewer if said reviewer cannot

36 be available within one working day. If the adverse determination is not reversed by the  
37 reconsideration process, nothing in the paragraph shall prevent the provider from pursuing the  
38 claim through the division's appeal process.