

SENATE No. 738

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joseph A. Boncore

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 protecting pregnant and postpartum patients.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Joseph A. Boncore

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Suffolk and Middlesex

SENATE No. 738

By Mr. Boncore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 738) of Joseph A. Boncore for legislation to protect pregnant and postpartum patients. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act protecting pregnant and postpartum patients.

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 10 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the second paragraph and inserting in place
3 thereof the following paragraph:-

4 The division shall, to the extent permitted by Title XIX or other federal authority, provide
5 medical assistance to pregnant patients who are presumptively eligible for the services to be
6 covered in conformity with appropriate standards of care not less than 12-months postpartum
7 from the date of birth or adjusted date of birth in the case of a premature birth. The division shall
8 promulgate regulations to implement this section, which shall require health care providers to
9 notify such pregnant patients of the need to file an application for Medicaid and which shall set
10 standards to be used by providers in determining presumptive eligibility.

11 SECTION 2. Section 10E of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
12 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof
13 the following new paragraph:-

14 The division shall establish a program of medical care and assistance for pregnant women
15 and infants who are not otherwise eligible for medical assistance under chapter 118E and who
16 lack private health insurance coverage or have health insurance coverage which does not cover
17 all medically necessary care covered by the program established by this section. The division
18 shall furnish such medical assistance to each such pregnant patient and infant residing in the
19 commonwealth in accordance with standards of eligibility established by the division for not less
20 than 12-months postpartum from the date of birth or adjusted date of birth in the case of a
21 premature birth; provided, however, that the income eligibility standards shall not be more than
22 200 per cent of the non-farm income poverty guidelines defined by the United States Office of
23 Management and Budget.