

SENATE No. 757

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Steven A. Tolman

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 passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to children's mental health clinicians.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Steven A. Tolman	Second Suffolk and Middlesex
Anthony D. Galluccio	Middlesex, Suffolk and Essex
Martha M. Walz	8th Suffolk
Frederick E. Berry	Second Essex
Thomas M. McGee	Third Essex and Middlesex
John A. Hart, Jr.	First Suffolk
Sonia Chang-Díaz	Second Suffolk
Anthony W. Petrucci	First Suffolk and Middlesex
Joan M. Menard	First Bristol and Plymouth
Marian Walsh	Suffolk and Norfolk
Susan C. Tucker	Second Essex and Middlesex
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Harriette L. Chandler	First Worcester
Karen E. Spilka	Second Middlesex and Norfolk
Jennifer L. Flanagan	Worcester and Middlesex

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIANS.

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 22 of chapter 32A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word “setting” in the first sentence of
3 subsection (g), the following words: - and for children and adolescents under the age of 19, shall
4 include any and all collateral services

5 SECTION 2. Subsection (i) of said section 22 of said chapter 32A, as so appearing, is
6 hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:— Under this section, “collateral services”
7 shall mean face-to-face or telephonic consultation, of at least 15 minutes in duration, by a
8 licensed mental health professional with parties determined by the licensed mental health
9 professional to be necessary to make a diagnosis, and develop and implement a treatment plan.

10 SECTION 3. Chapter 118E of the General Laws, as so appearing, is amended by
11 inserting after section 10F the following section:— Section 10G. The division shall provide
12 coverage for collateral services performed by a licensed mental health professional for persons
13 under 19 years of age. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to abrogate any
14 obligation to provide coverage for mental health services pursuant to any law or regulation of the

15 commonwealth or the United States or under the terms or provisions of any policy, contract, or
16 certificate.

17 Under this section, “collateral services” shall mean face-to-face or telephonic
18 consultation, of at least 15 minutes in duration, by a licensed mental health professional with
19 parties determined by the licensed mental health professional to be necessary to make a
20 diagnosis, and develop and implement a treatment plan.

21 Under this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed physician
22 who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed independent
23 clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, or a licensed nurse mental health
24 clinical specialist.

25 SECTION 4. Section 47B of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as so appearing is hereby
26 amended by inserting after the word “setting” in the first sentence of subsection (g), the
27 following words: - and for children and adolescents under the age of 19, shall include any and all
28 collateral services.

29 SECTION 5. Subsection (i) of said section 47B of said chapter 175, as so appearing, is
30 hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:— Under this section, “collateral services”
31 shall mean face-to-face or telephonic consultation, for at least 15 minutes of duration, by a
32 licensed mental health professional with parties determined by the licensed mental health
33 professional to be necessary to make a diagnosis, and develop and implement a treatment plan.

34 SECTION 6. Section 8A of chapter 176A of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
35 hereby amended by inserting after the word “setting” in the first sentence of subsection (g), the

36 following words: - and for children and adolescents under the age of 19, shall include any and all
37 collateral services.

38 SECTION 7. Subsection (i) of said section 8A of said chapter 176A, as so appearing, is
39 hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:— Under this section, “collateral services”
40 shall mean face-to-face or telephonic consultation, of at least 15 minutes of duration, by a
41 licensed mental health professional with parties determined by the licensed mental health
42 professional to be necessary to make a diagnosis, and develop and implement a treatment plan.

43 SECTION 8. Section 4A of said chapter 176B of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
44 hereby further amended by inserting after the word “setting” in the first sentence of subsection
45 (g), the following words: - and for children and adolescents under the age of 19, shall include
46 any and all collateral services.

47 SECTION 9. Subsection (i) of said section 4A of said chapter 176B, as so appearing, is
48 hereby further amended by adding the following paragraph:— Under this section, “collateral
49 services” shall mean face-to-face or telephonic consultation, of at least 15 minutes of duration,
50 by a licensed mental health professional with parties determined by the licensed mental health
51 professional to be necessary to make a diagnosis, and develop and implement a treatment plan.

52 SECTION 10. Said section 4M of chapter 176G of the General Laws, as so appearing, is
53 hereby further amended by inserting after the word “setting” in the first sentence of subsection
54 (g), the following words: - and for children and adolescents under the age of 19, shall include
55 any and all collateral services.

56 SECTION 11. Said section 4M of said chapter 176G of the General Laws, as so
57 appearing, is hereby further amended by adding the following paragraph:— Under this section,
58 “collateral services” shall mean face-to-face or telephonic consultation, of at least 15 minutes of
59 duration, by a licensed mental health professional with parties determined by the licensed mental
60 health professional to be necessary to make a diagnosis, and develop and implement a treatment
61 plan.