

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4487**

Section 36 contained in the engrossed Bill making appropriations for the fiscal year 2017 (see House, No. 4450), which had been returned by His Excellency the Governor with recommendation of amendment (for message, see Attachment F of House, No. 4505). July 11, 2016.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to the Massachusetts child psychiatry access program.

*Whereas*, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, which is to provide for the Massachusetts child psychiatry access program, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

*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 19 of the General Laws is hereby amended by hereby amended by  
2 inserting after section 16 the following section:-

3 Section 16A. (a) Subject to appropriation, the department shall operate a statewide  
4 program to provide remote mental health consultations available for a at least 5 days a week to  
5 pediatricians, family physicians, nurse practitioners and primary care practices for persons under  
6 the age of 19 who exhibit a possible mental health or substance use disorder and to health care  
7 providers of women who are presenting with signs of post-partum depression.

8           (b) Expenditures on this program by the department that are related to services provided  
9 on behalf of commercially-insured clients shall be assessed by the commissioner on surcharge  
10 payors as defined in section 64 of chapter 118E.

11           SECTION 2. This act shall take effect as of July 1, 2016.