HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2635 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2057

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Patricia A. Haddad

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:

An Act relative to physician services provided by physician assistants.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Patricia A. Haddad	*5th Bristol*
Alice K. Wolf	*25th Middlesex*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 2635 FILED ON: 1/20/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 2057

By Ms. Haddad of Somerset, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2057) of Patricia A. Haddad and Alice K. Wolf relative to the rate of insurance reimbursement for certain services provided by physician assistants. Financial Services.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to physician services provided by physician assistants.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 175 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 47U, inserted by section 8 of chapter 141 of the acts of 2000, the following section:-

Section 47V. No individual or group accident and health insurance policies and health service contracts can refuse to reimburse a physician at the full rate for necessary medical or surgical services provided by a physician assistant practicing under the supervision of a physician if the policy or contract would have paid for the same services when provided by a physician.

Individual or group accident and health insurance policies and health service contracts cannot impose a practice or supervision restriction which is inconsistent or more restrictive than state law. Provided, however, that the following conditions are met:(1) the service rendered is within the scope of practice of physician assistants pursuant to section 9E of said chapter 112; (2) such service is provided in compliance with all other requirements of law, including a formal supervisory arrangement with a physician as provided for by said section 9E (3) the policy or contract provides benefits for such service if rendered by a registered physician in the commonwealth

SECTION 2. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after SECTION 8Z, the following section:-

Section 8V. No contract or subscription certificate between an insured and the corporation can refuse to reimburse a physician at the full rate for necessary medical or surgical services provided by a physician assistant, certified by the board of registration of physician assistants pursuant to the provisions of section 9F of chapter 112, practicing under the supervision of a physician if the contract or subscription certificate would have paid for the same

23 services when provided by a physician. A contract or subscription certificate between an insured
24 and the

25 corporation cannot impose a practice or supervision restriction which is inconsistent or
26 more restrictive than state law; provided, however, that the following conditions are met: (1) the
27 service rendered is within the scope of practice of physician assistants pursuant to section 9E of
28 said chapter112; (2) such service is provided in compliance with all other requirements of law,
29 including a formal supervisory arrangement with a physician as provided for by said section 9E;
30 and (3) the contract or subscription certificate provided benefits for such service if rendered by a
31 registered physician in the commonwealth.

32 SECTION 3. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
33 SECTION 4U, inserted by section 4R the following section:-

34 Section 4V. No contract or subscription certificate between an insured and the
35 corporation can refuse to reimburse a physician at the full rate for necessary medical or surgical
36 services provided by a physician assistant, certified by the board of registration of physician
37 assistants pursuant to the provisions of section 9F of chapter 112, practicing under the
38 supervision of a physician if the contract or subscription certificate would have paid for the same
39 services when provided by a physician. A contract or subscription certificate between an insured
40 and the

41 corporation cannot impose a practice or supervision restriction which is inconsistent or
42 more restrictive than state law; provided, however, that the following conditions are met: (1) the
43 service rendered is within the scope of practice of physician assistants pursuant to section 9E of
44 said chapter112; (2) such service is provided in compliance with all other requirements of law,
45 including a formal supervisory arrangement with a physician as provided for by said section 9E;
46 and (3) the contract or subscription certificate provides benefits for such service if rendered by a
47 registered physician in the commonwealth. No such contract of subscription certificate shall
48 deny payment for such services solely on the basis that the service was provided by a physician
49 assistant.

50 SECTION 4. The first paragraph of section 4 of chapter 176G of the General Laws is
51 hereby amended by adding the following sentence:-

52 Such health maintenance contract shall also provide coverage for the services rendered by
53 a certified registered physician assistant, as set forth in section 47V of chapter 175, subject to the
54 provisions of said section.