HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 593 FILED ON: 1/18/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 295

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Stephen Kulik

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 increasing consumer access to licensed marriage and family therapy.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Stephen Kulik	*1st Franklin*
Colleen M. Garry	*36th Middlesex*
Kay Khan	*11th Middlesex*
Peter V. Kocot	*1st Hampshire*
Alice K. Wolf	*25th Middlesex*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 593 FILED ON: 1/18/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 295

By Mr. Kulik of Worthington, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 295) of Stephen Kulik and others relative to health insurance coverage for marriage and family therapy. Financial Services.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE
HOUSE
, NO. *950* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

An Act relative to increasing consumer access to licensed marriage and family therapy.

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. Section 22 of chapter 32A of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out the last paragraph, as most recently amended by section 1 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

For the purposes of this section, "licensed mental health professional" shall mean a licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed marriage and family therapist within the lawful scope of practice for such therapist.

SECTION 2. Section 47B of chapter 175 of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out the next to last paragraph, as most recently amended by section 2 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

For the purposes of this section, "licensed mental health professional" shall mean a licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed marriage and family therapist within the lawful scope of practice for such therapist.

17 SECTION 3. Section 8A of chapter 176A of the General Laws, is hereby amended by
18 striking out the next to last paragraph, as most recently amended by section 4 of chapter 80 of the
19 acts of 2000, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

20 For the purposes of this section, "licensed mental health professional" shall mean a
21 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
22 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
23 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed marriage and family therapist within the lawful
24 scope of practice for such therapist.

25 SECTION 4. Section 4A of 176B of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking out
26 the next to last paragraph, as most recently amended by section 6 of chapter 80 of the acts of
27 2000, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

28 For the purposes of this section, "licensed mental health professional" shall mean a
29 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
30 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
31 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed marriage and family therapist within the lawful
32 scope of practice for such therapist.

33 SECTION 5. Section 4M of 176G of the General Laws, is hereby amended by striking
34 out the next to last paragraph, as most recently amended by section 10 of chapter 80 of the acts
35 of 2000, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:—

36 For the purposes of this section, "licensed mental health professional" shall mean a
37 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
38 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
39 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed marriage and family therapist within the lawful
40 scope of practice for such therapist.