

HOUSE No. 950

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 bill:

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

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Stephen Kulik	1st Franklin
Ellen Story	3rd Hampshire
John W. Scibak	2nd Hampshire

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3930 OF 2007-2008.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

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:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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