

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1102**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Lindsay N. Sabadosa and Cindy F. Friedman***

*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to establish health equity for pregnant persons.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>
<i>Cindy F. Friedman</i>	<i>Fourth Middlesex</i>
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Biele</i>	<i>4th Suffolk</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>
<i>Peter Capano</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>
<i>Harriette L. Chandler</i>	<i>First Worcester</i>
<i>Michelle L. Ciccolo</i>	<i>15th Middlesex</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>
<i>Daniel R. Cullinane</i>	<i>12th Suffolk</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Mindy Domb</i>	<i>3rd Hampshire</i>
<i>Daniel M. Donahue</i>	<i>16th Worcester</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Nika C. Elugardo</i>	<i>15th Suffolk</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>

<i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Carlos González</i>	<i>10th Hampden</i>
<i>Richard M. Haggerty</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>Stephan Hay</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>
<i>Jonathan Hecht</i>	<i>29th Middlesex</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>
<i>Daniel J. Hunt</i>	<i>13th Suffolk</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>
<i>David Paul Linsky</i>	<i>5th Middlesex</i>
<i>Jay D. Livingstone</i>	<i>8th Suffolk</i>
<i>Adrian C. Madaro</i>	<i>1st Suffolk</i>
<i>Paul W. Mark</i>	<i>2nd Berkshire</i>
<i>Christina A. Minicucci</i>	<i>14th Essex</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Middlesex</i>
<i>Maria Duaiame Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>
<i>David M. Rogers</i>	<i>24th Middlesex</i>
<i>Daniel J. Ryan</i>	<i>2nd Suffolk</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>
<i>Steven Ultrino</i>	<i>33rd Middlesex</i>
<i>Tommy Vitolo</i>	<i>15th Norfolk</i>
<i>Bud L. Williams</i>	<i>11th Hampden</i>

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By Representative Sabadosa of Northampton and Senator Friedman, a joint petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1102) of Lindsay N. Sabadosa, Cindy F. Friedman and others relative to health insurance benefits for pregnant persons. Financial Services.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act to establish health equity for pregnant persons.

*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 17C of chapter 32A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “coverage for”, in line 3, the  
3 following words:- abortion and abortion-related care,.

4           SECTION 2. Said section 17C of said chapter 32A, as so appearing, is hereby further  
5 amended by adding the following sentences:-

6           Coverage provided under this section shall not be subject to any deductible, coinsurance,  
7 copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement. Coverage offered under this section shall not  
8 impose unreasonable restrictions or delays in the coverage.

9           Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for the enrollee’s covered  
10 spouse and covered dependents.

11           The commission shall ensure plan compliance with this chapter.

12 SECTION 3. Section 10A of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
13 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “coverage for”, in line 1, the  
14 following words:- abortion and abortion-related care,.

15 SECTION 4. Said section 10A of said chapter 118E, as so appearing, is hereby further  
16 amended by adding the following sentences:-

17 Coverage provided under this section shall not be subject to any deductible, coinsurance,  
18 copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement. Coverage offered under this section shall not  
19 impose unreasonable restrictions or delays in the coverage.

20 Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for the enrollee’s covered  
21 spouse and covered dependents.

22 Nothing in this section shall be construed to deny or restrict the division’s authority to  
23 ensure its contracted health insurers, health plans, health maintenance organizations, behavioral  
24 health management firms and third-party administrators under contract to a Medicaid managed  
25 care organization or primary care clinician plan are in compliance with this chapter.

26 SECTION 5. Section 47F of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
27 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words “for the expense of”, in line 20,  
28 the following words:- abortion and abortion-related care,.

29 SECTION 6. Said section 47F of said chapter 175, as so appearing, is hereby further  
30 amended by inserting after the third paragraph the following paragraphs:-

31 Coverage provided under this section shall not be subject to any deductible, coinsurance,  
32 copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement. Coverage offered under this section shall not  
33 impose unreasonable restrictions or delays in the coverage.

34 Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for the enrollee's covered  
35 spouse and covered dependents.

36 A policy of accident and sickness insurance that is purchased by an employer that is a  
37 church or qualified church-controlled organization, as defined in section 47W of this chapter,  
38 shall be exempt from covering abortion and abortion-related care at the request of the employer.  
39 An employer that invokes the exemption under this section shall provide written notice to  
40 prospective enrollees prior to enrollment with the plan and such notice shall list the health care  
41 methods and services for which the employer will not provide coverage for religious reasons.

42 SECTION 7. Section 8H of Chapter 176A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
43 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words "expense for", in line 8, the  
44 following words:- abortion and abortion-related care,.

45 SECTION 8. Said section 8H of said chapter 176A, as so appearing, is hereby further  
46 amended by striking out, in lines 9 and 10, the words "to the same extent that benefits are  
47 provided for medical conditions not related to pregnancy".

48 SECTION 9. Said section 8H of said chapter 176A, as so appearing, is hereby further  
49 amended by inserting after the third paragraph the following paragraphs:-

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51 Coverage provided under this section shall not be subject to any deductible, coinsurance,  
52 copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement. Coverage offered under this section shall not  
53 impose unreasonable restrictions or delays in the coverage.

54 Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for the enrollee's covered  
55 spouse and covered dependents.

56 A policy of accident and sickness insurance that is purchased by an employer that is a  
57 church or qualified church-controlled organization, as defined in section 8W of this chapter, shall  
58 be exempt from covering abortion and abortion-related care at the request of the employer. An  
59 employer that invokes the exemption under this subsection shall provide written notice to  
60 prospective enrollees prior to enrollment with the plan and such notice shall list the health care  
61 methods and services for which the employer will not provide coverage for religious reasons.

62 SECTION 10. Section 4H of chapter 176B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
63 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words "expense for", in lines 7 and 8,  
64 the following words:- abortion and abortion-related care,.

65 SECTION 11. Said section 4H of said chapter 176B, as so appearing, is hereby further  
66 amended by striking out, in lines 8 to 10, inclusive, the words "to the same extent that benefits  
67 are provided for medical conditions not related to pregnancy".

68 SECTION 12. Said section 4H of said chapter 176B, as so appearing, is hereby further  
69 amended by inserting after the third paragraph the following paragraphs:-

70 Coverage provided under this section shall not be subject to any deductible, coinsurance,  
71 copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement. Coverage offered under this section shall not  
72 impose unreasonable restrictions or delays in the coverage.

73 Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for the enrollee's covered  
74 spouse and covered dependents.

75 A policy of accident and sickness insurance that is purchased by an employer that is a  
76 church or qualified church-controlled organization, as defined in section 4W of this chapter, shall  
77 be exempt from covering abortion and abortion-related care at the request of the employer. An  
78 employer that invokes the exemption under this subsection shall provide written notice to  
79 prospective enrollees prior to enrollment with the plan and such notice shall list the health care  
80 methods and services for which the employer will not provide coverage for religious reasons.

81 SECTION 13. Section 4I of chapter 176G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2016  
82 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the words "coverage for", in lines 1 and 2,  
83 the following words:- abortion and abortion-related care,.

84 SECTION 14. Said section 4I of said chapter 176G, as so appearing, is hereby further  
85 amended by inserting after the second paragraph the following paragraphs:-

86 Coverage provided under this section shall not be subject to any deductible, coinsurance,  
87 copayment or any other cost-sharing requirement. Coverage offered under this section shall not  
88 impose unreasonable restrictions or delays in the coverage.

89 Benefits for an enrollee under this section shall be the same for the enrollee's covered  
90 spouse and covered dependents.

91           A health maintenance contract that is purchased by an employer that is a church or  
92 qualified church-controlled organization, as defined in section 40 of this chapter, shall be exempt  
93 from covering abortion and abortion-related care at the request of the employer. An employer  
94 that invokes the exemption under this subsection shall provide written notice to prospective  
95 enrollees prior to enrollment with the plan and such notice shall list the health care methods and  
96 services for which the employer will not provide coverage for religious reasons.

97           SECTION 15. Sections 1 to 14, inclusive, shall apply to all policies, contracts and  
98 certificates of health insurance subject to chapters 32A, 118E, 175, 176A, 176B and 176G of the  
99 General Laws that are delivered, issued or renewed 6 months from the effective date of this act.