

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 4111**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**William Smitty Pignatelli**

*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 providing for medical coverage for acupuncture.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
William Smitty Pignatelli	4th Berkshire
Christine E. Canavan	10th Plymouth
Martha M. Walz	8th Suffolk

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

## AN ACT PROVIDING FOR MEDICAL COVERAGE FOR ACUPUNCTURE.

*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 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 47Y the following  
3 section:-

4           Section 47AA. All individual or group accident and health insurance  
5 policies and health service contracts delivered, issued or renewed by an insurer or  
6 nonprofit health service corporation which provide benefits to individual  
7 subscribers and members within the commonwealth or to all group members  
8 having a principal place of employment within the commonwealth shall provide  
9 benefits for services rendered by a licensed acupuncturist.

10          SECTION 2. Section 205 of said chapter 175, as so appearing, is hereby  
11 amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

12          The commissioner shall not approve a policy that does not provide benefits  
13 for services rendered by a licensed acupuncturist.

14          SECTION 3. Chapter 176A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 206  
15 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 8AA the following  
16 section:-

17          Section 8BB. Any contract between a subscriber and the corporation under  
18 an individual or group hospital service plan delivered, issued or renewed in the

19 commonwealth shall provide as benefits to all individual subscribers and members  
20 within the commonwealth and to all group members having a principal place of  
21 employment within the commonwealth for services rendered by a licensed  
22 acupuncturist.

23 SECTION 4. Chapter 176B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
24 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 4BB the following  
25 section:-

26 Section 4CC. Any subscription certificate under an individual or group  
27 medical service agreement delivered, issued or renewed in the commonwealth shall  
28 provide a benefits to all individual subscribers and members within the  
29 commonwealth and to all group members having a principal place of employment  
30 within the commonwealth for services rendered by a licensed acupuncturist.

31 SECTION 5. Chapter 176G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
32 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 4T the following  
33 section:-

34 Section 4U. Any group health maintenance contract shall provide coverage  
35 for acupuncture as defined in section 1 of chapter 112.

36 SECTION 1. Chapter 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official  
37 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 47Y the following section:-

38 Section 47AA. All individual or group accident and health insurance  
39 policies and health service contracts delivered, issued or renewed by an insurer or  
40 nonprofit health service corporation which provide benefits to individual  
41 subscribers and members within the commonwealth or to all group members  
42 having a principal place of employment within the commonwealth shall provide  
43 benefits for services rendered by a licensed acupuncturist.

44 SECTION 2. Section 205 of said chapter 175, as so appearing, is hereby  
45 amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following paragraph:-

46 The commissioner shall not approve a policy that does not provide benefits  
47 for services rendered by a licensed acupuncturist.

48 SECTION 3. Chapter 176A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 206  
49 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 8AA the following  
50 section:-

51 Section 8BB. Any contract between a subscriber and the corporation under  
52 an individual or group hospital service plan delivered, issued or renewed in the  
53 commonwealth shall provide as benefits to all individual subscribers and members  
54 within the commonwealth and to all group members having a principal place of  
55 employment within the commonwealth for services rendered by a licensed  
56 acupuncturist.

57 SECTION 4. Chapter 176B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
58 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 4BB the following  
59 section:-

60 Section 4CC. Any subscription certificate under an individual or group  
61 medical service agreement delivered, issued or renewed in the commonwealth shall  
62 provide a benefits to all individual subscribers and members within the  
63 commonwealth and to all group members having a principal place of employment  
64 within the commonwealth for services rendered by a licensed acupuncturist.

65 SECTION 5. Chapter 176G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006  
66 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 4T the following  
67 section:-

68 Section 4U. Any group health maintenance contract shall provide coverage  
69 for acupuncture as defined in section 1 of chapter 112.