

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 941**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Kay Khan**

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*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 to improve access to child and adolescent mental health services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Elizabeth A. Malia	11th Suffolk
Benjamin Swan	11th Hampden
Ellen Story	3rd Hampshire
Jennifer M. Callahan	18th Worcester
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex
Anne M. Gobi	5th Worcester
Mary E. Grant	6th Essex

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE HOUSE, NO. 3935 OF 2007-2008.]

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year Two Thousand and Nine

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AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO CHILD AND ADOLESCENT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

*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, inserted by section 1 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place  
3 thereof the following paragraph:--

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

9 SECTION 2.

10 Section 47B of Chapter 175 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the next to  
11 the last paragraph, inserted by section 2 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place  
12 thereof the following paragraph:--

13 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
14 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
15 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental  
16 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of  
17 practice for such educational psychologist.

18 SECTION 3.

19 Section A of Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the next to  
20 the last paragraph, inserted by section 4 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place  
21 thereof the following paragraph:--

22 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
23 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
24 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental  
25 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of  
26 practice for such educational psychologist.

27 SECTION 4.

28 Section 4A of Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the next to  
29 the last paragraph, inserted by section 6 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place  
30 thereof the following paragraph:--

31 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
32 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
33 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental

34 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of  
35 practice for such educational psychologist.

36 SECTION 5.

37 Section 4M of Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the next to  
38 the last paragraph, inserted by section 10 of chapter 80 to the acts of 2000, and inserting in place  
39 thereof the following paragraph:--

40 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
41 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
42 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental  
43 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of  
44 practice for such educational psychologist.

45 SECTION 6. This act shall apply to all policies, contracts, agreements, plans and certificates of  
46 insurance issued or delivered within or without the commonwealth on or after March 1, 2010,  
47 and to all policies, contracts, agreements, plans and certificates of insurance in effect before that  
48 date upon renewal or after March 1, 2010.