

SENATE No. 2223

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Nine

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

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

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

11 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
12 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a

13 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
14 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist.

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

18 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
19 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
20 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
21 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist.

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

25 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
26 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
27 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
28 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist.

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

32 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a
33 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a

34 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
35 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist.

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