HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 702 FILED ON: 1/19/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 68

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ronald Mariano

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 relative to increasing consumer access to licensed marriage and family therapists..

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Ronald Mariano	*3rd Norfolk*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 702 FILED ON: 1/19/2011

HOUSE . . . . . No. 68

By Mr. Mariano of Quincy, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 68) of Ronald Mariano for legislation to increase consumer access to licensed marriage and family therapists. Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. *77* OF 2009-2010.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Eleven

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

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 SECTION 4. Section 4A of 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out
26 the next to last paragraph, as most recently amended by section 6 of chapter 80 of the acts of
27 2000, and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:--

28 For the purposes of this section, "licensed mental health professional" shall mean a
29 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
30 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse

31 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed marriage and family therapist within the lawful
32 scope of practice for such therapist.

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

36 For the purposes of this section, "licensed mental health professional" shall mean a
37 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a
38 licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse
39 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed marriage and family therapist within the lawful
40 scope of practice for such therapist.