

HOUSE No. 1783

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Ruth B. Balser

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 promote efficient access to mental health services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Ruth B. Balser</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Brian A. Joyce</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>	<i>1/16/2013</i>
<i>James M. Cantwell</i>	<i>4th Plymouth</i>	
<i>Colleen M. Garry</i>	<i>36th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Denise Andrews</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	

HOUSE No. 1783

By Ms. Balser of Newton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1783) of Ruth B. Balser and others relative to promoting efficient access to mental health services. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 2876 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act to promote efficient access to 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 Behavioral Health plans must give no fewer than 180 days notice to behavioral health
2 providers of any decision to not renew a contract.

3 Further, Health Plans must show cause for not renewing provider contracts, and must
4 demonstrate that any lawful communication concerning regulations and statutes that effect
5 service delivery is not a factor in said non-renewal.

6 Further, should a Behavioral Health Plan not renew a behavioral health provider contract,
7 said plan must continue to cover payment for an existing patient receiving services prior to the
8 termination date of the contract, until such treatment is no longer medically necessary consistent
9 with terms of contract in place at the time of non-renewal and usual and customary utilization
10 management processes.

11 Further, Behavioral Health Providers shall not be prohibited from collecting any portion
12 of a deductible for services rendered at the time of service.