

HOUSE No. 4142

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen

An Act relative to Lyme Disease treatment coverage.

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 32A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
2 section 17K the following section:-

3 Section 17L. Any coverage offered by the commission to an active or retired employee of
4 the commonwealth insured under the group insurance commission that provides coverage for
5 cancer chemotherapy treatment shall provide coverage for Lyme disease treatment.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 175 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
7 section 47DD, the following section:-

8 Section 47EE. Any policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued,
9 delivered or renewed within the commonwealth that provides medical expense coverage shall
10 provide coverage for diagnostic testing and long-term antibiotic treatment of chronic Lyme
11 disease when determined to be medically necessary and ordered by a physician after making a
12 thorough evaluation of the patient’s symptoms, diagnostic test results and response to treatment.
13 Treatment otherwise eligible for benefits pursuant to this section shall not be denied solely
14 because such treatment may be characterized as unproven, experimental, or investigational in
15 nature.

16 SECTION 3. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
17 section 8FF the following section:-

18 Section 8GG. Any contract between a subscriber and the corporation under an individual
19 or group hospital service plan which is delivered, issued or renewed within the commonwealth
20 shall provide coverage for diagnostic testing and long-term antibiotic treatment of chronic Lyme
21 disease when determined to be medically necessary and ordered by a physician after making a

22 thorough evaluation of the patient's symptoms, diagnostic test results and response to treatment.
23 Treatment otherwise eligible for benefits pursuant to this section shall not be denied solely
24 because such treatment may be characterized as unproven, experimental, or investigational in
25 nature.

26 SECTION 4. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
27 section 4FF, the following section:-

28 Section 4GG. Any subscription certificate under an individual or group medical service
29 agreement delivered, issued, or renewed within the commonwealth shall provide coverage for
30 diagnostic testing and long-term antibiotic treatment of chronic Lyme disease when determined
31 to be medically necessary and ordered by a physician after making a thorough evaluation of the
32 patient's symptoms, diagnostic test results and response to treatment. Treatment otherwise
33 eligible for benefits pursuant to this section shall not be denied solely because such treatment
34 may be characterized as unproven, experimental, or investigational in nature.

35 SECTION 5. Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
36 section 4X the following section:-

37 Section 4Y. Any individual or group health maintenance contract shall provide coverage
38 for diagnostic testing and long-term antibiotic treatment of chronic Lyme disease when
39 determined to be medically necessary and ordered by a physician after making a thorough
40 evaluation of the patient's symptoms, diagnostic test results and response to treatment. Treatment
41 otherwise eligible for benefits pursuant to this section shall not be denied solely because such
42 treatment may be characterized as unproven, experimental, or investigational in nature.