SENATE No. 427

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Katherine M. Clark

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 providing for equitable coverage in disability policies.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
Katherine M. Clark	Fifth Middlesex
Kay Khan	11th Middlesex
Ruth B. Balser	12th Middlesex
Denise Provost	27th Middlesex
Sal N. DiDomenico	Middlesex and Suffolk
Thomas M. Stanley	9th Middlesex
Alice Hanlon Peisch	14th Norfolk

SENATE No. 427

By Ms. Clark, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 427) of Katherine M. Clark, Kay Khan, Ruth B. Balser, Denise Provost and other members of the General Court for legislation to prohibit discrimination in the issuance of group or individual disability, accident or sickness insurance policies. Financial Services.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION SEE SENATE, NO. 413 OF 2011-2012.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Thirteen

An Act providing for equitable coverage in disability policies.

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

Chapter 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2010 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 108J the following section:-

Section 108K. No company, and no officer or agent thereof, shall make or permit any distinction, classification, discrimination, or otherwise recognize any difference, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, or national origin, in the amount or payment of premiums or rate charges, or in the benefits payable, or in any of the other terms or conditions of any group or individual disability, accident or sickness insurance contract issued or delivered within or without the commonwealth on or after January 1, 2013 which covers one or more residents of the commonwealth. As used in this section, sex includes, but is not limited to, conditions unique to one sex, such as pregnancy. Any violation of this section shall constitute an unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive act or practice in violation of chapter 176D.