

HOUSE No. 1808

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Elizabeth A. Malia

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 behavioral health access.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Elizabeth A. Malia</i>	<i>11th Suffolk</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Ruth B. Balsler</i>	<i>12th Middlesex</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Tom Sannicandro</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>
<i>Brian A. Joyce</i>	<i>Norfolk, Bristol and Plymouth</i>
<i>Carmine L. Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>
<i>Paul R. Heroux</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>
<i>Thomas A. Golden, Jr.</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>

HOUSE No. 1808

By Ms. Malia of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1808) of Elizabeth A. Malia and others relative to access to behavioral health services for persons enrolled in MassHealth public health insurance programs. Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court
(2015-2016)**

An Act relative to behavioral health access.

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. The secretary of the executive office of health and human services shall
2 monitor access to behavioral health services for MassHealth members for a period of two years
3 and shall report semiannually to the Attorney General, The Joint Committee on Mental Health
4 and Substance Abuse and the House and Senate Committees on Ways and Means. The report
5 shall include an analysis of benchmarks developed in consultation with the center for health
6 information and analysis, provider associations, consumers and health plans and a comparison of
7 benchmarked data covering Fiscal Years 2013 and 2014. Said benchmarks shall include but not
8 be limited to the number and types of behavioral health providers who participate in public
9 health insurance programs, the number of administrative steps necessary to get access to care,
10 readmissions to inpatient levels of care, utilization and prior authorization requirements,
11 complaints and grievances.