

**SENATE . . . . . No. 585**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Jennifer L. Flanagan***

*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 require equitable access to behavioral health services for MassHealth consumers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Jennifer L. Flanagan</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	
<i>Stephen L. DiNatale</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	
<i>Angelo M. Scaccia</i>	<i>14th Suffolk</i>	
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	
<i>Barbara A. L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>	
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	
<i>Christine P. Barber</i>	<i>34th Middlesex</i>	
<i>Linda Dorcena Forry</i>	<i>First Suffolk</i>	
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Thomas P. Kennedy</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>3/4/2015</i>

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By Ms. Flanagan, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 585) of Jennifer L. Flanagan, Stephen L. DiNatale, Angelo M. Scaccia, Jennifer E. Benson and other members of the General Court for legislation to provide equitable access to behavioral health for MassHealth consumers. Health Care Financing.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 519 OF 2013-2014.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—————  
**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act to require equitable access to behavioral health services for MassHealth consumers.

*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. Section 12 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2008  
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting at the end of the ninth paragraph the following  
3 sentence:- The Division shall ensure that all contracted health insurers, health plans, health  
4 maintenance organizations, and behavioral health management firms and third party  
5 administrators provide comparable access to behavioral health services, benefits, and  
6 medications in providing medical assistance to recipients.