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# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### PRESENTED BY:

## Alan Silvia

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 insurance coverage for individuals with autism.

## PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Alan Silvia	7th Bristol	2/16/2021
Mathew J. Muratore	1st Plymouth	3/2/2021
Elizabeth A. Malia	11th Suffolk	3/29/2021
Carole A. Fiola	6th Bristol	4/1/2021
Marcos A. Devers	16th Essex	4/1/2021
James Arciero	2nd Middlesex	4/1/2021
Vanna Howard	17th Middlesex	4/1/2021
David F. DeCoste	5th Plymouth	4/1/2021
Patricia A. Haddad	5th Bristol	4/2/2021
Christopher Hendricks	11th Bristol	4/2/2021
Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.	12th Hampden	4/2/2021
Tram T. Nguyen	18th Essex	4/5/2021
Brian W. Murray	10th Worcester	4/5/2021
Joseph D. McKenna	18th Worcester	4/8/2021
Jessica Ann Giannino	16th Suffolk	4/8/2021
Michael D. Brady	Second Plymouth and Bristol	4/8/2021
Carol A. Doherty	3rd Bristol	4/8/2021
Kevin G. Honan	17th Suffolk	4/8/2021

Carlos González	10th Hampden	4/9/2021
John J. Cronin	Worcester and Middlesex	4/13/2021

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By Mr. Silvia of Fall River, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1203) of Alan Silvia and others relative to insurance coverage for individuals with autism. Financial Services.

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court (2021-2022)

An Act relative to insurance coverage for individuals with autism.

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 2 chapter 32A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2	Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "forces", in line 74, the following
3	words:-, and a child, regardless of age, diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, as defined in
4	section 25.
5	SECTION 2. Subsection (a) of subdivision 2 of section 108 of chapter 175 of the General
5	SECTION 2. Subsection (a) of subdivision 2 of section 108 of enapter 175 of the General
6	Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by inserting after the word "persons", in line 33, the
7	following words:-, including, but not limited to, dependent persons diagnosed with autism
8	spectrum disorders, as defined in section 47AA.
9	SECTION 3. Section 110 of chapter 175 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
10	amended by adding the following subdivision:-
11	(Q) A blanket or general policy of insurance described in subdivision (A), (C) or (D),
12	except policies or certificates that are not health benefit plans, as defined in section 1 of chapter

13	176J, or coverage to Medicare or other governmental programs which shall be delivered, issued
14	or renewed in the commonwealth, shall provide, as benefits to all group members having a place
15	of employment in the commonwealth, coverage to dependent persons diagnosed with autism
16	spectrum disorders, as defined in section 47AA.
17	SECTION 4. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
18	section 800, as inserted by section 48 of chapter 260 of the acts of 2020, the following section:-
19	Section 8PP. Any subscription certification under an individual or group nonprofit
20	hospital service agreement, except certificates which provide stand-alone dental services,
21	supplemental coverage to Medicare or other governmental programs, that is delivered, issued or
22	renewed in the commonwealth, shall provide, as benefits to all individuals or to all group
23	members having a principal place of employment within the commonwealth, coverage to
24	dependents diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, as defined in section 8DD.
25	SECTION 5. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
26	section 400, as inserted by section 50 of said chapter 260, the following section:-
27	Section 4PP. Any subscription certificate under an individual or group medical service
28	agreement, except certificates that provide stand-alone dental services, supplemental coverage to
29	Medicare or other governmental programs, that is delivered or issued or renewed in the
30	commonwealth, shall provide, as benefits to all individual subscribers and members within the
31	commonwealth and to all group members having a principal place of employment within the
32	commonwealth, coverage to dependents diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, as defined in
33	section 4DD.

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34	SECTION 6. Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
35	section 4GG, as inserted by section 52 of said chapter 260, the following section:-
36	Section 4HH. A health maintenance contract, except certificates which provide stand-
37	alone dental services, supplemental coverage to Medicare or other governmental programs, shall
38	provide, as benefits to all individuals or to group members having a principal place of
39	employment within the commonwealth, coverage to dependents diagnosed with autism spectrum
40	disorders, as defined in section 4V.
41	SECTION 7. Section 1 of chapter 176J of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
42	Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the definition of "eligible dependent" and
43	inserting in place thereof the following definition:-
44	"Eligible dependent", the spouse or child of an eligible person, subject to the applicable
45	terms of the health benefit place covering such employee. The child of an eligible individual or
46	eligible employee shall be considered an eligible dependent until the end of the child's twenty-
47	sixth year of age; provided, however, that a child diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders, as
48	defined in section 47AA of chapter 175, shall be considered an eligible dependent regardless of
49	age.