

SENATE No. 1442

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Adam G. Hinds

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 promoting the health and well-being of mothers and infants.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Adam G. Hinds

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Berkshire, Hampshire, Franklin and Hampden

SENATE No. 1442

By Mr. Hinds, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 1442) of Adam G. Hinds for legislation to promote the health and well-being of mothers and infants. Public Health.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 1270 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act promoting the health and well-being of mothers and infants.

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 11A of chapter 13 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first paragraph and inserting in place
3 thereof the following paragraph:-

4 "There shall be a board of allied health professions, hereinafter called the board, which
5 shall consist of 12 members to be appointed by the governor. Members of the board shall be
6 residents of the commonwealth and citizens of the United States. Three of such members shall be
7 athletic trainers licensed in accordance with section 23B of chapter 112; 2 of such members shall
8 be occupational therapists licensed in accordance with said section 23B; 1 such member shall be
9 an occupational therapy assistant licensed in accordance with said section 23B; 2 of such
10 members shall be physical therapists licensed in accordance with said section 23B; 1 such

11 member shall be a physical therapist assistant licensed in accordance with said section 23B; 1
12 such member shall be a lactation consultant licensed in accordance with said section 23B; 1 such
13 member shall be a physician licensed in accordance with section 2 of chapter 112; and 1 such
14 member shall be selected from and shall represent the general public.

15 SECTION 2. Section 23A of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby
16 amended by inserting after the definition of “Board” the following two definitions:-

17 “Lactation care and services”, the clinical application of scientific principles and a
18 multidisciplinary body of evidence for the evaluation, problem identification, treatment,
19 education and consultation to provide lactation care and services to families; provided, however,
20 that lactation care and services includes, but is not limited to, lactation assessment through the
21 systematic collection of subjective and objective data, analysis of data and creation of a plan of
22 care; development and implementation of a lactation care plan with demonstration and
23 instruction to parents and communication to the primary health care provider, provision of
24 lactation education to parents and health care providers, and recommendation and use of assistive
25 devices.

26 “Lactation consultant”, a person who is duly licensed to practice lactation care and
27 services in accordance with section 23B.

28 SECTION 3. Section 23B of said chapter 112, as so appearing, is hereby amended by
29 striking out, in line 8 the words “and physical therapy assistants” and inserting in place thereof
30 the following words:-", physical therapy assistants, and lactation consultants".

31 SECTION 4. Section 23C of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by inserting, in line 4
32 after the words “physical therapy assistant”, the following words:- "or lactation consultant".

33 SECTION 5. Said section 23C is hereby further amended by inserting, in line 11, after
34 the words “physical therapist duly licensed under this chapter”, the following words:- "a
35 lactation consultant duly licensed under this chapter".

36 SECTION 6. Section 23D of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by inserting, in line 3,
37 after the words “physical therapy assistant”, the following words:-", or lactation consultant".

38 SECTION 7. Section 23E of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by inserting in
39 subsection (b), after the words “physical therapy assistant”, the following words:- "or lactation
40 consultant".

41 SECTION 8. Said section 23E is hereby further amended by inserting in subsection (c),
42 after the words “physical therapy”, the following words:- "or lactation care and services".

43 SECTION 9. Said section 23E is hereby further amended by inserting in subsection (e),
44 after the words “physical therapy services”, the following words:- "or lactation care and
45 services".

46 SECTION 10. Said section 23E is hereby further amended by inserting in subsection (e),
47 after the words “physical therapist”, the following words:- "or lactation consultant".

48 SECTION 11. Said chapter 112 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 23J
49 the following section:-

50 Section 23J½. An applicant for licensure as a lactation consultant shall be certified by the
51 International Board of Lactation Consultant Examiners as an International Board Certified
52 Lactation Consultant.

53 SECTION 12. Section 23K of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by inserting in
54 subsection (c), after the words “physical therapy”, the following words:- "or lactation care and
55 services".

56 SECTION 13. Section 23L of said chapter 112 is hereby amended by inserting, after the
57 words “physical therapy assistant”, the following words:- "or lactation consultant".

58 SECTION 14. Said chapter 112 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 23P
59 the following section:-

60 Section 23P³/₄. (a) No person shall hold herself out to others as a lactation consultant
61 unless she holds a valid license issued in accordance with this chapter.

62 (b) Nothing shall prevent the practice of lactation care and services by members of other
63 licensed healthcare professions when such practice is consistent with the accepted standards and
64 scope of their respective professions, provided however, such persons shall not: (1) use the title
65 “licensed lactation consultant” unless licensed under this chapter; nor (2) use the title “lactation
66 consultant” unless said person is an IBCLC.

67 (c) Nothing in this chapter shall prevent the practice of lactation care and services by
68 students, interns, or persons preparing for the practice of lactation care and services under the
69 supervision of a supervisor or any licensed professional as listed in subsection(a), provided
70 however, such persons shall not:(1) use the title “licensed lactation consultant” unless licensed
71 under this chapter; nor (2) use the title “lactation consultant” unless said person is an IBCLC.

72 (d) Nothing in this chapter shall prevent the practice of lactation care and services by
73 employees of a department, agency, county, or local government from engaging in the practice

74 of lactation care and services within the discharge of the employees' official duties, including,
75 but not limited to, peer counselors working within the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program
76 for Women, Infants, and Children, provided however, such persons shall not: (1) use the title
77 "licensed lactation consultant" unless licensed under this chapter; nor (2) use the title "lactation
78 consultant" unless said person is an IBCLC.

79 (e) Nothing in the chapter shall prevent the practice of lactation care and services by
80 other lactation support providers, including, but not limited to: doulas; prenatal, childbirth, and
81 perinatal educators; breastfeeding and lactation educators; and breastfeeding and lactation
82 counselors, from performing breastfeeding education and counseling services consistent with the
83 accepted standards of their respective occupations, provided however, such persons shall not: (1)
84 use the title "licensed lactation consultant" unless licensed under this chapter; nor (2) use the title
85 "lactation consultant" unless said person is an IBCLC.

86 (f) Nothing in this chapter shall prevent individual volunteers from providing lactation
87 care and services, but such persons shall not: (1) use the title "licensed lactation consultant"
88 unless licensed under this chapter; nor (2) use the title "lactation consultant" unless said person is
89 an IBCLC.

90 (g) Nothing in this chapter shall prevent a nonresident IBCLC from practicing lactation
91 care and services in this state for six months without licensure.

92 (h) All IBCLCs engaged in the practice of lactation care and services as of the effective
93 date of this act may continue to practice without a license until 3 years following the
94 promulgation of regulations by the board, denial of an application by the board, or the the
95 withdrawal of an application, whichever occurs first.