

SENATE No. 696

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joan B. Lovely

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 help patients and reduce healthcare costs by ensuring patient adherence to medications.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Joan B. Lovely</i>	<i>Second Essex</i>	
<i>Michael O. Moore</i>	<i>Second Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>

SENATE No. 696

By Ms. Lovely, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 696) of Joan B. Lovely and Michael O. Moore for legislation relative to medication synchronization. Financial Services.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 614 OF 2019-2020.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act to help patients and reduce healthcare costs by ensuring patient adherence to medications.

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

1 An individual or group health insurance policy providing prescription drug coverage in
2 the state must permit and apply a pro-rated daily cost-sharing rate to prescriptions dispensed by a
3 network pharmacy for a partial supply if the prescriber or pharmacist determines the fill or refill
4 to be in the best interest of the patient and the patient requests or agrees to a partial supply for the
5 purpose of synchronizing the patient’s medications.

6 No individual or group health insurance policy providing prescription drug coverage shall
7 deny coverage for the dispensing of a medication by a network pharmacy on the basis that the
8 dispensing is for a partial supply if the prescriber or pharmacist determines the fill or refill to be
9 in the best interest of the patient and the patient requests or agrees to a partial supply for the
10 purpose of synchronizing the patient’s medications. The individual or group health plan must

11 allow a pharmacy to override any denial codes indicating that a prescription is being refilled too
12 soon for the purposes of medication synchronization.

13 No individual or group health insurance policy providing prescription drug coverage shall
14 use payment structures incorporating pro-rated dispensing fees. Dispensing fees for partially
15 filled or refilled prescriptions shall be paid in full for each prescription dispensed regardless of
16 any pro-rated copay for the beneficiary or fee paid for alignment services.