

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 948**

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Natalie M. Blais*

*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 requiring prospective payment system methodology for reimbursement to community health centers.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>1/19/2023</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>1/25/2023</i>
<i>Lindsay N. Sabadosa</i>	<i>1st Hampshire</i>	<i>1/26/2023</i>
<i>Meghan K. Kilcoyne</i>	<i>12th Worcester</i>	<i>1/27/2023</i>
<i>Peter Capano</i>	<i>11th Essex</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>John J. Cronin</i>	<i>Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2023</i>
<i>David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf</i>	<i>17th Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2023</i>
<i>Daniel Cahill</i>	<i>10th Essex</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Vanna Howard</i>	<i>17th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2023</i>
<i>Tackey Chan</i>	<i>2nd Norfolk</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Michael P. Kushmerek</i>	<i>3rd Worcester</i>	<i>2/2/2023</i>
<i>Rodney M. Elliott</i>	<i>16th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/3/2023</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/5/2023</i>
<i>James J. O'Day</i>	<i>14th Worcester</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>
<i>Mary S. Keefe</i>	<i>15th Worcester</i>	<i>2/6/2023</i>

<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/7/2023</i>
<i>Brian W. Murray</i>	<i>10th Worcester</i>	<i>2/17/2023</i>
<i>Dylan A. Fernandes</i>	<i>Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket</i>	<i>2/17/2023</i>
<i>Rebecca L. Rausch</i>	<i>Norfolk, Worcester and Middlesex</i>	<i>2/23/2023</i>
<i>Christopher Richard Flanagan</i>	<i>1st Barnstable</i>	<i>2/24/2023</i>
<i>Estela A. Reyes</i>	<i>4th Essex</i>	<i>3/1/2023</i>
<i>Kevin G. Honan</i>	<i>17th Suffolk</i>	<i>3/14/2023</i>
<i>Natalie M. Higgins</i>	<i>4th Worcester</i>	<i>3/14/2023</i>
<i>Rady Mom</i>	<i>18th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/22/2023</i>
<i>Susan L. Moran</i>	<i>Plymouth and Barnstable</i>	<i>4/5/2023</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 948**

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By Representative Blais of Deerfield, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 948) of Natalie M. Blais and others relative to the rate of payment for certain federally qualified health center services provided to patients by community health centers. Financial Services.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Third General Court  
(2023-2024)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act requiring prospective payment system methodology for reimbursement to community health centers.

*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. Chapter 32A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official  
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 32 the following new section:-

3 Section 33. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the  
4 following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

5 “Federally Qualified Health Center”, any entity receiving a grant under 42 USC 254B.

6 “Federally Qualified Health Center Services”, as such term is defined in 42 U.S.C.  
7 1396d(a)(2)(C)

8 (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the Commission shall  
9 ensure that the rate of payment for any Federally Qualified Health Center services provided to a  
10 patient by a community health center, shall be reimbursed through a methodology that conforms

11 with 42 USC § 1396a(bb) and 1396b(m)(2)(A)(ix) as they appear in Title 42 of the United States  
12 Code as of January 1, 2023.

13 (c) A policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
14 renewed within or without the commonwealth shall not be required to reimburse a health care  
15 provider for a health care service that is not a covered benefit under the plan or reimburse a  
16 health care provider not contracted under the plan except as described in subclause (i) of clause  
17 (4) of subsection (a) of section 6 of chapter 176O.

18 SECTION 2. Chapter 118E of the General laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official  
19 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 13d ½ the following new section:-

20 Section 13d ¾. (a) For purposes of this section, the term “community health center” shall  
21 mean any entity reimbursed as a community health center under this chapter.

22 (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, reimbursement for  
23 community health centers under this chapter, shall be through a methodology that conforms with  
24 42 USC § 1396a(bb) and 1396b(m)(2)(A)(ix) as appearing in Title 42 of the United States Code  
25 as of January 1, 2023.

26 SECTION 3. Chapter 175 of the General law, as appearing in the 2020 Official Edition,  
27 is hereby amended by inserting after section 47TT the following new section:-

28 Section 47UU. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the  
29 following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

30 “Federally Qualified Health Center”, any entity receiving a grant under 42 USC 254B.

31 “Federally Qualified Health Center Services”, as such term is defined in 42 U.S.C.  
32 1396d(a)(2)(C)

33 (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, insurers organized under  
34 this chapter shall ensure that the rate of payment for any Federally Qualified Health Center  
35 services provided to a patient by a community health center, shall be reimbursed through a  
36 methodology that conforms with 42 USC § 1396a(bb) and 1396b(m)(2)(A)(ix) as they appear in  
37 Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2023.

38 (c) A policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
39 renewed within or without the commonwealth shall not be required to reimburse a health care  
40 provider for a health care service that is not a covered benefit under the plan or reimburse a  
41 health care provider not contracted under the plan except as described in subclause (i) of clause  
42 (4) of subsection (a) of section 6 of chapter 176O.

43 (d) The division of insurance shall issue regulations governing issuance of payments to  
44 community health centers to conform with this section.

45 SECTION 4. Chapter 176A of the General laws, as appearing in the 2020 Official  
46 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after Section 38 the following new section:-

47 Section 39. (a) For the purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the  
48 following meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

49 “Federally Qualified Health Center”, any entity receiving a grant under 42 USC 254B.

50 “Federally Qualified Health Center Services”, as such term is defined in 42 U.S.C.  
51 1396d(a)(2)(C)

52 (b) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any corporation organized  
53 under this chapter shall ensure that the rate of payment for any Federally Qualified Health Center  
54 services provided to a patient by a community health center, shall be reimbursed through a  
55 methodology that conforms with 42 USC § 1396a(bb) and 1396b(m)(2)(A)(ix) as they appear in  
56 Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2023.

57 (c) A policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
58 renewed within or without the commonwealth shall not be required to reimburse a health care  
59 provider for a health care service that is not a covered benefit under the plan or reimburse a  
60 health care provider not contracted under the plan except as described in subclause (i) of clause  
61 (4) of subsection (a) of section 6 of chapter 176O.

62 SECTION 5. Section 1 of Chapter 176B of the General laws, as appearing in the 2020  
63 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “Dependent” the  
64 following new definitions:-

65 “Federally Qualified Health Center,” any entity receiving a grant under 42 USC 254B.

66 “Federally Qualified Health Center Services,” shall have the same definition as such term  
67 is defined in 42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(2)(C).

68 SECTION 6. Chapter 176B of the General laws, as so appearing is hereby further  
69 amended by inserting after Section 25 the following new section:-

70 Section 26: (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any medical  
71 service plan organized under this Chapter shall ensure that the rate of payment for any Federally  
72 Qualified Health Center services provided to a patient by a community health center, shall be

73 reimbursed through a methodology that conforms with 42 USC § 1396a(bb) and  
74 1396b(m)(2)(A)(ix) as they appear in Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2023.

75 (b) A policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
76 renewed within or without the commonwealth shall not be required to reimburse a health care  
77 provider for a health care service that is not a covered benefit under the plan or reimburse a  
78 health care provider not contracted under the plan except as described in subclause (i) of clause  
79 (4) of subsection (a) of section 6 of chapter 176O.

80 SECTION 7. Section 1 of chapter 176E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
81 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “Dental Service  
82 Corporation” the following new definitions:-

83 “Federally Qualified Health Center,” any entity receiving a grant under 42 USC 254B.

84 “Federally Qualified Health Center Services,” shall have the same definition as such term  
85 is defined in 42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(2)(C).

86 SECTION 8. Said chapter 176E is further amended by inserting after section 15A the  
87 following new section:-

88 Section 15B. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any Dental  
89 Service Corporation organized under this Chapter shall ensure that the rate of payment for any  
90 Federally Qualified Health Center services provided to a patient by a community health center,  
91 shall be reimbursed through a methodology that conforms with 42 USC § 1396a(bb) and  
92 1396b(m)(2)(A)(ix) as they appear in Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2023.

93 (b) A policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
94 renewed within or without the commonwealth shall not be required to reimburse a health care  
95 provider for a health care service that is not a covered benefit under the plan or reimburse a  
96 health care provider not contracted under the plan except as described in subclause (i) of clause  
97 (4) of subsection (a) of section 6 of chapter 176O.

98 SECTION 9. Section 1 of chapter 176G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
99 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “Evidence of Coverage”  
100 the following new definitions:-

101 “Federally Qualified Health Center,” any entity receiving a grant under 42 USC 254B.

102 “Federally Qualified Health Center Services,” shall have the same definition as such term  
103 is defined in 42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(2)(C).

104 SECTION 10. Said chapter 176G is further amended by inserting after section 33 the  
105 following new section:-

106 Section 34. (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any Health  
107 Maintenance Organization organized under the laws of the Commonwealth shall ensure that the  
108 rate of payment for any Federally Qualified Health Center services provided to a patient by a  
109 community health center, shall be reimbursed through a methodology that conforms with 42  
110 USC § 1396a(bb) and 1396b(m)(2)(A)(ix) as they appear in Title 42 of the United States Code as  
111 of January 1, 2023.

112 (b) A policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
113 renewed within or without the commonwealth shall not be required to reimburse a health care

114 provider for a health care service that is not a covered benefit under the plan or reimburse a  
115 health care provider not contracted under the plan except as described in subclause (i) of clause  
116 (4) of subsection (a) of section 6 of chapter 176O.

117 SECTION 11. Section 1 of chapter 176I of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020  
118 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “Emergency Care” the  
119 following new definitions:-

120 “Federally Qualified Health Center,” any entity receiving a grant under 42 USC 254B.

121 “Federally Qualified Health Center Services,” shall have the same definition as such term  
122 is defined in 42 U.S.C. 1396d(a)(2)(C).

123 SECTION 12. Said chapter 176I, as so appearing, is further amended by inserting after  
124 section 13 the following new section:-

125 Section 14: (a) Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, any preferred  
126 provider contract shall ensure that the rate of payment for any Federally Qualified Health Center  
127 services provided to a patient by a community health center, shall be reimbursed through a  
128 methodology that conforms with 42 USC § 1396a(bb) and 1396b(m)(2)(A)(ix) as they appear in  
129 Title 42 of the United States Code as of January 1, 2023.

130 (b) A policy, contract, agreement, plan or certificate of insurance issued, delivered or  
131 renewed within or without the commonwealth shall not be required to reimburse a health care  
132 provider for a health care service that is not a covered benefit under the plan or reimburse a  
133 health care provider not contracted under the plan except as described in subclause (i) of clause  
134 (4) of subsection (a) of section 6 of chapter 176O.