

HOUSE No. 1002

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Peter J. Durant

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 children's auditory health.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Peter J. Durant</i>	<i>6th Worcester</i>	<i>1/17/2023</i>

HOUSE No. 1002

By Representative Durant of Spencer, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1002) of Peter J. Durant relative to auditory healthcare coverage for children. Financial Services.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE HOUSE, NO. 1074 OF 2021-2022.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to children's auditory health.

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 23 of chapter 32A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020
2 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence of the second paragraph,
3 and inserting the words "The commission shall provide to any child or adult, who is 26 years of
4 age or younger, of an active or retired employee of the commonwealth and who is insured under
5 the group insurance commission coverage for the cost of 1 hearing aid per hearing-impaired ear
6 up to \$2,000 for each hearing aid, as defined in section 196 of chapter 112, every 36 months
7 upon a written statement from the child's treating physician that the hearing aids are necessary
8 regardless of etiology."

9 SECTION 2. Section 4N of chapter 176G of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2020
10 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the first sentence of the second paragraph,

11 and inserting the words "An individual or group health maintenance contract, except contracts
12 providing supplemental coverage to Medicare or other governmental programs, shall provide
13 coverage and benefits for children 21 years of age or younger, who are insured under such
14 contracts, for expenses incurred for the cost of 1 hearing aid per hearing impaired ear up to
15 \$2,000 for each hearing aid, as defined under section 196 of chapter 112, every 36 months upon
16 a written statement from the child's treating physician that the hearing aids are necessary
17 regardless of etiology."