HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 4149 FILED ON: 1/17/2025

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1127

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Marjorie C. Decker and Brandy Fluker-Reid

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 increase access to nurse-midwifery services.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
Marjorie C. Decker	*25th Middlesex*	*1/17/2025*
Susannah M. Whipps	*2nd Franklin*	*2/6/2025*
Samantha Montaño	*15th Suffolk*	*2/7/2025*
Lindsay N. Sabadosa	*1st Hampshire*	*2/7/2025*
Mindy Domb	*3rd Hampshire*	*2/10/2025*
Vanna Howard	*17th Middlesex*	*4/7/2025*
Carmine Lawrence Gentile	*13th Middlesex*	*5/19/2025*
Adrianne Pusateri Ramos	*14th Essex*	*5/19/2025*
Estela A. Reyes	*4th Essex*	*5/28/2025*
Sally P. Kerans	*13th Essex*	*6/11/2025*
David Henry Argosky LeBoeuf	*17th Worcester*	*6/11/2025*
Erika Uyterhoeven	*27th Middlesex*	*7/9/2025*
Rodney M. Elliott	*16th Middlesex*	*7/15/2025*
James B. Eldridge	*Middlesex and Worcester*	*7/25/2025*

HOUSE DOCKET, NO. 4149 FILED ON: 1/17/2025

HOUSE . . . . . No. 1127

By Representatives Decker of Cambridge and Fluker-Reid of Boston, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1127) of Marjorie C. Decker, Susannah M. Whipps and others relative to insurance coverage and access to nurse-midwifery services. Financial Services.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)

An Act to increase access to nurse-midwifery services.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 32A of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the following section:-

Section 34. The commission shall provide to any active or retired employee of the commonwealth insured under the group insurance commission coverage for services rendered by a certified nurse midwife designated to engage in the practice of nurse-midwifery by the board of registration in nursing pursuant to section 80C of chapter 112, and the payment rate for a service provided by a certified nurse-midwife that is within the scope of the certified nurse-midwife's authorization to practice shall be equal to the payment rate for the same service if performed by a physician.

SECTION 2. Section 47E of Chapter 175 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following sentences:- The reimbursement for the services provided pursuant to this section shall be in the same amount as the reimbursement

paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area served. An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to comply with this section.

SECTION 3. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 8VV the following section:-

Section 8WW. Any contract between a subscriber and the corporation under an individual or group hospital service plan which is delivered, issued or renewed in the commonwealth shall provide as a benefit to all individual subscribers and members within the commonwealth and to all group members having a principal place of employment within the commonwealth for services rendered by a certified nurse midwife designated to engage in the practice of nurse-midwifery by the board of registration in nursing pursuant to section 80C of chapter 112, and the payment rate for a service provided by a certified nurse-midwife that is within the scope of the certified nurse-midwife's authorization to practice shall be equal to the payment rate for the same service if performed by a physician.

SECTION 4. Section 4G of Chapter 176B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following sentences:- The reimbursement for the services provided pursuant to this section shall be in the same amount as the reimbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area served. An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to comply with this section.

SECTION 5. Section 4 of Chapter 176G of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by adding the following subsection:-

(g) services rendered by a certified nurse midwife designated to engage in the practice of nurse-midwifery by the board of registration in nursing pursuant to section 80C of chapter 112, subject to the terms of a negotiated agreement between the health maintenance organization and the provider of health care services. The reimbursement for the services provided shall be in the same amount as the reimbursement paid under the policy to a licensed physician performing the service in the area served. An insurer may not reduce the reimbursement paid to a licensed physician in order to comply with this section.