

HOUSE No. 4953

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, January 28, 2026.

The committee on Financial Services, to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1295) of Sean Reid for legislation to require insurance companies to reimburse licensed athletic trainers for certain services, reports recommending that the accompanying bill (House, No. 4953) ought to pass.

For the committee,

JAMES M. MURPHY.

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

An Act promoting consumer choice in health care.

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

1 Chapter 176O of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding after section 30 the
2 following section:

3 Section 31. A licensed athletic trainer, acting with a referral from a physician, who acts
4 within the scope of practice authorized by law shall not be denied reimbursement by a carrier as
5 defined under this chapter, for those covered services if the carrier would reimburse another
6 health care provider for those services. This section pertains only to those health plans that
7 provide coverage for a particular type of health service, or for any particular medical condition
8 that is within the scope of practice of licensed athletic trainers.

9 Services provided by licensed athletic trainers may be subject to reasonable deductibles,
10 co-payment and co-insurance amounts, fee or benefit limits, practice parameters, and utilization
11 review consistent with applicable rules adopted by the division of insurance; provided that the
12 amounts, limits, and review shall not function to direct treatment in a manner unfairly
13 discriminative against athletic trainer care, and collectively shall be no more restrictive than

14 those applicable under the same policy for care or services provided by other health care
15 providers.

16 Nothing in this section shall be construed as impeding or preventing either the provision
17 or coverage of health care services by licensed athletic trainers within the lawful scope of athletic
18 trainer practice.