SENATE DOCKET, NO. 1814 FILED ON: 1/16/2025

SENATE . . . . . No. 855

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Sal N. DiDomenico

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 ensuring equitable health coverage for children.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
Sal N. DiDomenico	*Middlesex and Suffolk*	
Robyn K. Kennedy	*First Worcester*	*3/12/2025*
Patricia D. Jehlen	*Second Middlesex*	*5/1/2025*

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SENATE . . . . . No. 855

By Mr. DiDomenico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 855) of Sal N. DiDomenico for legislation to ensure equitable health coverage for children. Health Care Financing.

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. *740* OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act ensuring equitable health coverage for children.

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

Chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding after Section 16D the following section:-

"Section 16E. (1) Notwithstanding any other law, there is hereby established a program of comprehensive health coverage for children and young adults under the age of 21 who are residents of the Commonwealth, as defined under section 8 of this chapter, who are not otherwise eligible for comprehensive benefits under Title XIX or XXI of the Social Security Act or under the demonstration pursuant to Section 9A of this chapter solely due to their immigration status. Children and young adults shall be eligible to receive comprehensive MassHealth benefits equivalent to the benefits available to individuals of like age and income under categorical and

10 financial eligibility requirements established by the executive office pursuant to said Title XIX
11 and Title XXI.

12 (2) The executive office of health and human services shall maximize federal financial
13 participation for the benefits provided under this section, however, benefits under this section
14 shall not be conditioned on the availability of federal financial participation."