

SENATE No.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Joanne M. Comerford

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 trans-inclusive health care access.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Joanne M. Comerford

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester

SENATE No.

[Pin Slip]

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION
SEE SENATE, NO. 596 OF 2023-2024.]

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to trans-inclusive health care access.

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 2022 Official
2 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 17S the following section:-

3 Section 17T. The commission shall not reject a written verification or certification from a
4 health care provider, including, but not limited to, a qualified mental health care professional, for
5 accessing gender-affirming care, unless the written verification or certification clearly does not
6 satisfy minimum requirements under established clinical guidelines, nor shall the commission
7 require more than one written verification or certification that the care is required for the
8 treatment of gender dysphoria.

9 For purposes of this section, the term “qualified mental health care professional” shall,
10 unless the context clearly requires otherwise, mean a mental health professional who meets the

11 minimum credentials, training and standards of care for working with gender dysphoric adults
12 and adolescents developed by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health.

13 SECTION 2. Chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official
14 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 10Q the following section:-

15 Section 10R. The division shall not reject a written verification or certification from a
16 health care provider, including, but not limited to, a qualified mental health care professional, for
17 accessing gender-affirming care, unless the written verification or certification clearly does not
18 satisfy minimum requirements under established clinical guidelines, nor shall the division require
19 more than one written verification or certification that the care is required for the treatment of
20 gender dysphoria.

21 For purposes of this section, the term “qualified mental health care professional” shall,
22 unless the context clearly requires otherwise, mean a mental health professional who meets the
23 minimum credentials, training and standards of care for working with gender dysphoric adults
24 and adolescents developed by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health.

25 SECTION 3. Chapter 175 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
26 section 47UU the following section:-

27 Section 47VV. No insurer or producer authorized to issue policies of insurance pursuant
28 to sections 108 or 110 shall reject a written verification or certification from a health care
29 provider, including, but not limited to, a qualified mental health care professional, for accessing
30 gender-affirming care, unless the written verification or certification clearly does not satisfy
31 minimum requirements under established clinical guidelines, nor shall any insurer or producer

32 require more than one written verification or certification that the care is required for the
33 treatment of gender dysphoria.

34 For purposes of this section, the term “qualified mental health care professional” shall,
35 unless the context clearly requires otherwise, mean a mental health professional who meets the
36 minimum credentials, training and standards of care for working with gender dysphoric adults
37 and adolescents developed by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health.

38 SECTION 4. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
39 section 8VV the following section:-

40 Section 8WW. No corporation subject to this chapter shall reject a written verification or
41 certification from a health care provider, including, but not limited to, a qualified mental health
42 care professional, for accessing gender-affirming care, unless the written verification or
43 certification clearly does not satisfy minimum requirements under established clinical guidelines,
44 nor shall the corporation require more than one written verification or certification that the care
45 is required for the treatment of gender dysphoria.

46 For purposes of this section, the term “qualified mental health care professional” shall,
47 unless the context clearly requires otherwise, mean a mental health professional who meets the
48 minimum credentials, training and standards of care for working with gender dysphoric adults
49 and adolescents developed by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health.

50 SECTION 5. Chapter 176B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2022 Official
51 Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 4VV the following section:-

52 Section 4WW. No corporation subject to this chapter shall reject a written verification or
53 certification from a health care provider, including, but not limited to, a qualified mental health
54 care professional, for accessing gender-affirming care, unless the written verification or
55 certification clearly does not satisfy minimum requirements under established clinical guidelines,
56 nor shall the corporation require more than one written verification or certification that the care
57 is required for the treatment of gender dysphoria.

58 For purposes of this section, the term “qualified mental health care professional” shall,
59 unless the context clearly requires otherwise, mean a mental health professional who meets the
60 minimum credentials, training and standards of care for working with gender dysphoric adults
61 and adolescents developed by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health.

62 SECTION 6. Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after
63 section 4NN the following section:-

64 Section 4OO. No health maintenance organization subject to this chapter, and no officer
65 or agent thereof, shall reject a written verification or certification from a health care provider,
66 including, but not limited to, a qualified mental health care professional, for accessing gender-
67 affirming care, unless the written verification or certification clearly does not satisfy minimum
68 requirements under established clinical guidelines, nor shall a health maintenance organization
69 require more than one written verification or certification that the care is required for the
70 treatment of gender dysphoria.

71 For purposes of this section, the term “qualified mental health care professional” shall,
72 unless the context clearly requires otherwise, mean a mental health professional who meets the

- 73 minimum credentials, training and standards of care for working with gender dysphoric adults
- 74 and adolescents developed by the World Professional Association for Transgender Health.