

SENATE No. 839

By Mr. King, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 839) of John G. King for legislation to expend benefits for alcoholism treatment in group health insurance policies, employees health and welfare funds, group hospital service contracts and group medical service contracts. Insurance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-one.

AN ACT EXPANDING BENEFITS FOR ALCOHOLISM TREATMENT IN GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE POLICIES, EMPLOYEES HEALTH AND WELFARE FUNDS, GROUP HOSPITAL SERVICE CONTRACTS AND GROUP MEDICAL SERVICE CONTRACTS.

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 110 of chapter 175 of the General Laws,
2 as most recently amended by chapter 1221 of the Acts of 1973,
3 is hereby amended by striking out, in subsection (a) of sub-
4 division (H) the words "at least thirty days in any calendar
5 year." and inserting in place thereof the following: —
6 provided to the same extent as for any other sickness under
7 the contract.

1 SECTION 2. Said section 110 of chapter 175 is hereby fur-
2 ther amended by striking out, in subsection (b) of subdivision
3 (H) the words, "extent of five hundred dollars over a twelve
4 month period," and inserting in place thereof the following: —
5 same extent as for any other sickness under the contract,

1 SECTION 3. Said section 110 of chapter 175 is hereby fur-
2 ther amended by striking out, in subsection (b) of subdivision
3 (H) the words, "who devotes a substantial portion of his time
4 treating intoxicated persons or alcoholics" and inserting in
5 place thereof the following:—
6 or by a psychologist, fully licensed under the provision of
7 chapter 1021, or by a registered nurse who devote a substan-
8 tial portion of their time treating alcoholics or intoxicated

9 persons, or by a social worker trained and experienced in the
10 treatment of alcoholics or intoxicated persons, or by profes-
11 sional or para-professional alcoholism counselors employed in
12 an alcoholism treatment facility licensed by the department of
13 public health.

1 SECTION 4. Section 10 of chapter 176A of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by striking out, in subsection (a) of the
3 third paragraph, the words "at least thirty days in any cal-
4 endar year." and inserting in place thereof the following: —
5 provided to the same extent as for any other sickness under
6 the contract.

1 SECTION 5. Said section 10 of chapter 176A is hereby fur-
2 ther amended by striking out, in subsection (b) of the third
3 paragraph, the words, "extent of five hundred dollars over a
4 twelve month period," and inserting in place thereof the fol-
5 lowing: —
6 same extent as for any other sickness under the contract.

1 SECTION 6. Said section 10 of chapter 176A is hereby fur-
2 ther amended by striking out, in subsection (b) of the third
3 paragraph, the words, "who devotes a substantial portion of
4 his time treating intoxicated persons or alcoholics" and insert-
5 ing in place thereof the following: —
6 or by a psychologist, fully licensed under the provisions of
7 chapter 1021, or by a registered nurse who devote a substan-
8 tial portion of their time treating alcoholics or intoxicated
9 persons, or by a social worker trained and experienced in the
10 treatment of alcoholics or intoxicated persons, or by profes-
11 sional or para-professional alcoholism counselors employed in
12 an alcoholism treatment facility licensed by the department of
13 public health.

1 SECTION 7. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out in subsection (a) of Section 4A the
3 words, "at least thirty days in any calendar year." and insert-
4 ing in place thereof the following: —
5 provided to the same extent as for any other sickness under
6 the contract.

1 SECTION 8. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by striking out in subsection (b) of Section 4A the
3 words, "extent of five hundred dollars over a twelve month
4 period," and inserting in place thereof the following: —

5 same extent as for any other sickness under the contract,

1 SECTION 9. Chapter 176B is hereby further amended by
2 striking out, in subsection (b) of Section 4A the words, "who
3 devotes a substantial portion of his time treating intoxicated
4 persons or alcoholics" and inserting in place thereof the fol-
5 lowing: —

6 or by a psychologist, fully licensed under the provisions of
7 chapter 1021, or by a registered nurse who devote a substan-
8 tial portion of their time treating alcoholics or intoxicated
9 persons, or by a social worker trained and experienced in the
10 treatment of alcoholics or intoxicated persons, or by profes-
11 sional or para-professional alcoholism counselors employed in
12 an alcoholism treatment facility licensed by the department
13 of public health.

