

By Mrs. Canavan of Brockton, petition of Christine E. Canavan, Edward G. Connolly, Sally P. Kerans, and another for legislation to provide insurance coverage for pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions for pain relief for cancer patients. Insurance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Five.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PHARMACOLOGICAL AND NON PHARMACOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS TO RELIEVE CANCER PAIN.

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 175 of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 47M, the following section:—

3 SECTION 47N. Any individual policy of accident and sickness
4 insurance issued pursuant to section one hundred and eight, and any
5 group blanket policy of accident and sickness insurance issued pur-
6 suant to section one hundred and ten, shall provide coverage for
7 pharmacological and non-pharmacological intervention as deemed
8 necessary to relieve cancer pain and prescribed by a practitioner,
9 nurse practitioner or physician's assistant authorized to prescribe
10 under the provisions of Chapter 94C, Section 7.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after section 80, the following section:—

3 Section 8P. Any contract between a subscriber and the corpora-
4 tion under an individual or group hospital service plan that shall be
5 delivered, issued or renewed in the commonwealth shall provide, as
6 benefits to all individual subscribers and members within the com-
7 monwealth and to all group members having a principal place of
8 employment within the commonwealth, coverage for pharmaco-
9 logical and non-pharmacological intervention as deemed necessary
10 to relieve cancer pain and prescribed by a practitioner, nurse practi-

11 tioner or physician's assistant authorized to prescribe under the
12 provisions of Chapter 94C, Section 7.

1 SECTION 3. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after Section 40, the following section:—

3 Section 4P. Any subscription certificate under an individual or
4 group medical service agreement that shall be delivered, issued or
5 renewed in the commonwealth shall provide benefits for all
6 individual subscribers and members within the commonwealth
7 and all group members having a principal place of employment
8 within the commonwealth, coverage for pharmacological and non-
9 pharmacological intervention as deemed necessary to relieve cancer
10 pain and prescribed by a practitioner, nurse practitioner, or physi-
11 cian's assistant authorized to prescribe under the provisions of
12 Chapter 94C, Section 7.

1 SECTION 4. Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after Section 4F, the following section:—

3 Section 4G. Any group health maintenance contract shall provide
4 coverage for pharmacological and non-pharmacological intervention
5 as deemed necessary to relieve cancer pain and prescribed by a
6 practitioner, nurse practitioner or physician's assistance authorized
7 to prescribe under the provisions of Chapter 94C, Section 7.