

By Mr. Berry, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 728) of Frederick E. Berry, James P. Jajuga, Peter J. Koutoujian, Cynthia S. Creem and other members of the General Court for legislation to provide mental health benefits for crime victims. Insurance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and One.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS FOR CRIME VICTIMS.

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 22 of chapter 32A of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out subparagraph (b) and inserting in
3 place thereof:—

4 “In addition to the coverage established pursuant to this
5 section, any health plan offered by the commission shall also pro-
6 vide coverage on a non-discriminatory basis for the diagnosis and
7 treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder to victims of crime that
8 involve the application of force, intimidation or violence or the
9 threat of force, intimidation or violence by the offender upon the
10 victim.”

1 SECTION 2. Section 47B of chapter 175 of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by striking out subparagraph (b) and inserting
3 in place thereof:—

4 “In addition to the mental health benefits established pursuant
5 to this section, any such policy shall also provide benefits on a
6 non-discriminatory basis for the diagnosis and treatment of post-
7 traumatic stress disorder to victims of crime that involve the
8 application of force, intimidation or violence or the threat of
9 force, intimidation or violence by the offender upon the victim.”

1 SECTION 3. Section 8A of chapter 176A of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by striking out subparagraph (b) and inserting
3 in place thereof:—

4 “In addition to the mental health benefits established pursuant
5 to this section, any such contract shall also provide benefits on a
6 non-discriminatory basis for the diagnosis and treatment of post-
7 traumatic stress disorder to victims of crime that involve the
8 application of force, intimidation or violence or the threat of
9 force, intimidation or violence by the offender upon the victim.”

1 SECTION 4. Section 4A of chapter 176B of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by striking out subparagraph “b” and inserting
3 in place thereof:—

4 “In addition to the mental health benefits established pursuant
5 to this section, any such subscription certificate shall also provide
6 benefits on a non-discriminatory basis for the diagnosis and treat-
7 ment of post-traumatic stress disorder to victims of crime that
8 involve the application of force, intimidation or violence or the
9 threat of force, intimidation or violence by the offender upon the
10 victim.”

1 SECTION 5. Section 4M of chapter 176G of the General Laws
2 is hereby amended by striking out subparagraph (b) and inserting
3 in place thereof:—

4 “In addition to the mental health benefits established pursuant
5 to this section, any such health maintenance contract shall also
6 provide benefits on a non-discriminatory basis for the diagnosis
7 and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder to victims of crime
8 that involve the application of force, intimidation or violence or
9 the threat of force, intimidation or violence by the offender upon
10 the victim.”