

By Mr. Scaccia of Boston, petition of Angelo M. Scaccia for legislation to regulate access to rehabilitative services under certain insurance laws of the Commonwealth. Insurance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO REHABILITATIVE SERVICES.

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 47B, the following new
3 section: —

4 Section 47B¹/₂. Any blanket or general policy of insurance
5 described in subdivision (A), (C) or (D) of Section one hundred
6 and ten which provides hospital expense and surgical expense
7 insurance and which is issued or subsequently renewed by
8 agreement between the insurer and the policy holder, within or
9 without the Commonwealth, during the period this provision is
10 effective, or any policy of accident and sickness insurance as
11 described in section one hundred and eight which provides
12 hospital and surgical expense insurance and which is delivered or
13 issued for delivery or subsequently renewed by agreement between
14 the insurer and the policy holder in the Commonwealth during
15 the period that this provision is effective shall provide benefits for
16 the services of a rehabilitation counselor licensed under the
17 provisions of chapter one hundred and twelve to the extent of five
18 hundred dollars over a twelve month period.

1 SECTION 2. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after Section 8A, the following new
3 section: —

4 Section 8A¹/₂. Any contract between a subscriber and the
5 corporation under an individual or group hospital service plan

6 which shall be delivered or issued or renewed in the Common-
7 wealth shall provide as benefits to all individual subscribers and
8 members within the Commonwealth and to all group members
9 having a principal place of employment within the Common-
10 wealth, in the case of outpatient benefits, the services of a
11 rehabilitation counselor licensed under the provisions of chapter
12 one hundred and twelve to the extent of five hundred dollars over
13 a twelve month period.

1 SECTION 3. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby
2 amended by inserting after Section 4G, the following new
3 section: —

4 Section 4G½. Any subscription certificate under an individual
5 or group medical service agreement which shall be delivered or
6 issued or renewed in this Commonwealth shall provide as benefits
7 to all individual subscribers and members within the Common-
8 wealth and to all group members having a principal place of
9 employment within the Commonwealth, in the case of outpatient
10 benefits, the services of a rehabilitation counselor licensed under
11 the provisions of chapter one hundred and twelve to the extent
12 of five hundred dollars over a twelve month period.

1 SECTION 4. Section 4 of chapter 176G as most recently
2 amended by Section 3 of chapter 380 of the Acts of 1986 is hereby
3 further amended by adding at the end thereof the following
4 sentence: — “Such health maintenance contract shall also provide
5 coverage for the services of a rehabilitation counselor as required
6 by section forty-seven B and one-half of chapter one hundred and
7 seventy-five.”