

By Mrs. Canavan of Brockton, petition of Christine E. Canavan and other members of the General Court for legislation to further define licensed mental health professional. Human Services and Elderly Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Three.

AN ACT IMPROVING ACCESS TO REHABILITATION COUNSELING.

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,  
2 as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 striking the final paragraph and inserting in place thereof the  
4 following paragraph:—

5 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health profes-  
6 sional” shall mean a licensed physician who specializes in the  
7 practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed indepen-  
8 dent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a  
9 licensed nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed reha-  
10 bilitation counselor.

1 SECTION 2. Section 47b of Chapter 175 of the General Laws,  
2 as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 striking the second to last paragraph and inserting in place thereof  
4 the following paragraph:—

5 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health profes-  
6 sional” shall mean a licensed physician who specializes in the  
7 practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed indepen-  
8 dent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a  
9 licensed nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed reha-  
10 bilitation counselor.

1 SECTION 3. Section 8A of Chapter 176A of the General Laws,  
2 as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 striking the second to last paragraph and inserting in place thereof  
4 the following paragraph:— For the purposes of this section,  
5 “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed physi-  
6 cian who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psy-  
7 chologist, a licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed  
8 mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental health clinical  
9 specialist, or a licensed rehabilitation counselor.

1 SECTION 4. Section 4A of Chapter 176B of the General Laws,  
2 as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby amended by  
3 striking the second to last paragraph and inserting in place thereof  
4 the following paragraph: For the purposes of this section,  
5 “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed physi-  
6 cian who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psy-  
7 chologist, a licensed independent clinical social worker, a licensed  
8 mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental health clinical  
9 specialist, or a licensed rehabilitation counselor.

1 SECTION 5. Section 4M of Chapter 176G of the General  
2 Laws, as appearing in the 1998 Official Edition, is hereby  
3 amended by striking the second to last paragraph and inserting in  
4 place thereof the following paragraph: For the purposes of this  
5 section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a  
6 licensed physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a  
7 licensed psychologist, a licensed independent clinical social  
8 worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse  
9 mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed rehabilitation coun-  
10 selor.