

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 879**

By Ms. Callahan of Sutton, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 879) of Jennifer M. Callahan for legislation to provide insurance coverage for base-line echogram testing for certain persons. Financial Services.

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

**Jennifer M. Callahan**

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the passage of the accompanying bill:

An Act providing insurance coverage for base line echogram testing for certain persons.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Jennifer M. Callahan

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

18th Worcester

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

—  
**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**  
—

**AN ACT PROVIDING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR BASE LINE ECHOGRAM TESTING FOR CERTAIN PERSONS.**

*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 23 of chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2002 Official Edition, is  
2 hereby amended by inserting after the word "writing", in line 8, the words: - ; and no pupil shall be required to take  
3 part in any physical education exercises unless the pupil undergoes a physical which includes a base-line echogram.

4 SECTION 2. Chapter 175 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 47W the following  
5 section:—

6 Section 47X. Any individual policy of accident and sickness insurance issued pursuant to section 108, and  
7 any group blanket policy of accident and sickness insurance issued pursuant to section 110, except policies  
8 providing supplemental coverage to Medicare or to other government programs, delivered, issued or renewed by  
9 agreement within or without the commonwealth shall provide coverage for the cost of base-line echogram testing for  
10 any child attending public schools in grades K through 12.

11 SECTION 3. Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 8Y the following  
12 section:—

13 Section 8Z. Any contract, except contracts providing supplemental coverage to Medicare or other  
14 governmental programs, between a subscriber and the corporation under an individual or group hospital service plan  
15 which shall be delivered or issued or renewed in the commonwealth shall provide, as a basic benefit to all individual  
16 subscribers and members within the commonwealth and to all group members having a principal place of  
17 employment within the commonwealth, for expense for base-line echogram testing. Said base-line echogram testing  
18 shall be provided in either a hospital or other setting and which shall meet standards promulgated by the  
19 commissioner of public health.

20 SECTION 4. Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 4Y the following  
21 section:—

22 Section 4Z. Any subscription certificate under an individual or group medical service agreement that shall  
23 be delivered, issued or renewed in the commonwealth shall provide as a benefit for all individual subscribers or  
24 members within the commonwealth and all group members having a principal place of employment within the  
25 commonwealth, coverage for base-line echogram testing and as authorized by a duly licensed physician.

26 The benefits provided in this section shall meet all other terms and conditions within a subscription  
27 certificate. Medical service agreements shall not reduce or eliminate coverage due to the requirements of this  
28 section.