

HOUSE No. 3935

By Mr. Rogers of Norwood, petition of John H. Rogers for legislation to define the term “licensed mental health professional” to include educational psychologists under certain health insurance laws of the Commonwealth. Financial Services.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand and Seven.

AN ACT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO THE SERVICES OF EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS.

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 the last paragraph, inserted by
3 section 1 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place
4 thereof 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 prac-
7 tice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed independent
8 clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed
9 nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psy-
10 chologist within the lawful scope of practice for such educational
11 psychologist.

1 SECTION 2. Section 47B of Chapter 175 of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out the next to the last paragraph,
3 inserted by section 2 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting
4 in place thereof 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 prac-
7 tice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed independent
8 clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed
9 nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psy-
10 chologist within the lawful scope of practice for such educational
11 psychologist.

1 SECTION 3. Section A of Chapter 176A of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out the next to the last paragraph,
3 inserted by section 4 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting
4 in place thereof 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 prac-
7 tice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed independent
8 clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed
9 nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psy-
10 chologist within the lawful scope of practice for such educational
11 psychologist.

1 SECTION 4. Section 4A of Chapter 176B of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out the next to the last paragraph,
3 inserted by section 6 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting
4 in place thereof 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 prac-
7 tice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed independent
8 clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed
9 nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psy-
10 chologist within the lawful scope of practice for such educational
11 psychologist.

1 SECTION 5. Section 4M of Chapter 176G of the General Laws is
2 hereby amended by striking out the next to the last paragraph,
3 inserted by section 10 of chapter 80 to the acts of 2000, and inserting
4 in place thereof 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 prac-
7 tice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed independent
8 clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed
9 nurse mental health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psy-
10 chologist within the lawful scope of practice for such educational
11 psychologist.

1 SECTION 6. This act shall apply to all policies, contracts, agree-
2 ments, plans and certificates of insurance issued or delivered within
3 or without the commonwealth on or after March 1, 2006, and to all

4 policies, contracts, agreements, plans and certificates of insurance in
5 effect before that date upon renewal or after March 1, 2006.