

SENATE NO. 607

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR EQUITABLE COVERAGE FOR MENTAL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

*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. Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 110 of Chapter 175 of the General
2 Laws or any provision of any general or special law to the contrary, any agreement, policy,
3 certificate, or contract providing for the reimbursement or payment to an insurance subscriber,
4 policy holder, certificate holder or any other person or provider of health care services shall not
5 discriminate against any person with alcoholism or chemical dependency by failing to provide
6 benefits for treatment and diagnosis of these illnesses under the same terms and conditions as
7 provided for covered benefits offered under the agreement, policy, certificate or contract for the
8 treatment and diagnosis of physical illnesses.

9 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, any
10 agreement, policy, certificate or contract providing for the reimbursement or payment to an
11 insurance subscriber, policyholder, certificate holder or any other person or provider for the
12 provision of health care services shall not impose any copayments, deductibles, or service
13 limitations for the diagnosis and treatment of alcoholism or chemical dependency in excess of

14 any copayments, deductibles, or service limitations imposed for the diagnosis and treatment of
15 physical illnesses.

16 SECTION 3. The provisions of this act shall apply to all policies, agreements, certificates or
17 contracts executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in the Commonwealth
18 on or after January 1, 2009.

19 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2009.