

# SENATE NO. 608

## **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 hereby amended by striking out the  
2 last paragraph, inserted by section 1 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place thereof  
3 the following paragraph:--

4 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
5 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
6 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental  
7 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of practice  
8 for such educational psychologist.

9 SECTION 2.

10 Section 47B of Chapter 175 of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the next to the  
11 last paragraph, inserted by section 2 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place thereof  
12 the following paragraph:--

13 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
14 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
15 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental  
16 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of practice  
17 for such educational psychologist.

18 SECTION 3.

19 Section A of Chapter 176A of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the next to the  
20 last paragraph, inserted by section 4 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place thereof  
21 the following paragraph:--

22 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
23 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
24 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental  
25 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of practice  
26 for such educational psychologist.

27 SECTION 4.

28 Section 4A of Chapter 176B of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the next to the  
29 last paragraph, inserted by section 6 of chapter 80 of the acts of 2000, and inserting in place thereof  
30 the following paragraph:--

31 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
32 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
33 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental

34 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of practice  
35 for such educational psychologist.

36 SECTION 5.

37 Section 4M of Chapter 176G of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out the next to the  
38 last paragraph, inserted by section 10 of chapter 80 to the acts of 2000, and inserting in place  
39 thereof the following paragraph:--

40 For the purposes of this section, “licensed mental health professional” shall mean a licensed  
41 physician who specializes in the practice of psychiatry, a licensed psychologist, a licensed  
42 independent clinical social worker, a licensed mental health counselor, a licensed nurse mental  
43 health clinical specialist, or a licensed educational psychologist within the lawful scope of practice  
44 for such educational psychologist.

45 SECTION 6. This act shall apply to all policies, contracts, agreements, plans and certificates of  
46 insurance issued or delivered within or without the commonwealth on or after March 1, 2008, and  
47 to all policies, contracts, agreements, plans and certificates of insurance in effect before that date  
48 upon renewal or after March 1, 2008.