

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS OFFICE OF MEDICAID ONE ASHBURTON PLACE, BOSTON, MA 02108



MAURA T. HEALEY GOVERNOR KATHLEEN E. WALSH SECRETARY

KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR MIKE LEVINE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR MASSHEALTH

June 2, 2025

Chair, Cindy Friedman Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Health Care Financing State House, Room 313 Boston, MA 02133

Chair, John Velis Senate Chair, Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery State House, Room 513 Boston, MA 02133 Chair, John Lawn House Chair, Joint Committee on Health Care Financing State House, Room 236 Boston, MA 02133

Chair, Mindy Domb House Chair, Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery State House, Room 33 Boston, MA 02133

Dear Chairs,

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS) Office of Medicaid (MassHealth) submits this report to the Legislature in conformance with Section 80 of Chapter 118E of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Under Section 265 of Chapter 224 of the Acts of 2012, the Office of Medicaid was authorized to promulgate regulations requiring any Medicaid health plan, managed care organization (MCO) and their health plans, and any behavioral health management firms and third-party administrators that are under contract with a Medicaid MCO, to comply with the federal Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 ("the federal Act") and applicable state mental health parity laws, effective for contracts on or after January 1, 2013.

Section 80 of Chapter 118E of the Massachusetts General Laws requires MassHealth to perform a mental health parity compliance examination of each Medicaid managed care organization,

accountable care organization or other entity contracted with the agency that manages or administers mental health and substance use disorder benefits (collectively, "managed care plans") for the division at least once every 4 years. The law also requires MassHealth to collect annual reports from its managed care plans relating to mental health parity compliance. MassHealth is required to submit an annual report summarizing these reports to the legislature by December 1 of each year.

I hope you find the attached materials useful and informative. Please feel free to contact Sarah Nordberg at <u>Sarah.Nordberg@mass.gov</u> if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mike Levine

cc: Kathleen E. Walsh

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