HOUSE DOCKET, NO. FILED ON: 1/14/2009

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

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

**Ruth B. Balser**

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*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 protecting choice in behavioral health benefits for MassHealth members.

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

PETITION OF:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name: | District/Address: |
| Ruth B. Balser | 12th Middlesex |

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

An Act protecting choice in behavioral health benefits for MassHealth members.

 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

 SECTION 1. Section 15 of chapter 118E of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2006 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after the third paragraph the following paragraph:-

Any person who is eligible for assistance under the provisions of this chapter who receives behavioral health benefits through the MassHealth behavioral health contractor, as that term is used in MassHealth regulations, shall not have those benefits reassigned or transferred to a MassHealth contracted managed care organization, unless such person provides written or verbal consent to the reassignment or transfer.