

**SENATE . . . . . No.**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

**Mr. Pacheco**  
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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 relative to reducing the cost of health care through parity for the same services.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

Mr. Pacheco

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

First Plymouth and Bristol

[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. S00627 OF 2007-2008.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand and Nine**

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AN ACT RELATIVE TO REDUCING THE COST OF HEALTH CARE THROUGH PARITY FOR  
THE SAME SERVICES.

*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 10 of chapter 176O of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2004 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended, by inserting the following new subsection at the end thereof:

3 (d) Notwithstanding any provision of any individual or group policy or accident and health insurance,  
4 or any provision of a policy, contract, plan or agreement for hospital or medical service or indemnity,  
5 wherever such policy, contract, plan or agreement provides for reimbursement for any service which is in  
6 the lawful scope of practice of a duly licensed physician, dentist, psychologist, podiatrist, osteopath,  
7 optometrist, chiropractor or other health care provider, the person entitled to benefits or the person  
8 performing services under the policy, contract, plan or agreement shall be entitled to reimbursement at an  
9 equitable and the lowest rate for such service, whether the service is performed by a physician, dentist,  
10 psychologist, podiatrist, osteopath, optometrist, chiropractor or other health care provider duly licensed  
11 under the laws of this commonwealth.