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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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**HOUSE BILL**

**No. 1177** Session of  
2007

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INTRODUCED BY FABRIZIO, SEIP, SURRA, BELFANTI, BIANCUCCI,  
BRENNAN, BUXTON, CURRY, DALEY, FRANKEL, GEORGE, GERGELY,  
GRUCELA, HARKINS, JOSEPHS, KIRKLAND, KOTIK, LEACH, MARKOSEK,  
McGEEHAN, McILHATTAN, MUNDY, MYERS, PETRONE, RAYMOND,  
READSHAW, REICHLEY, SANTONI, SCAVELLO, SIPTROTH, SOLOBAY,  
STURLA, TANGRETTI, WOJNAROSKI, YOUNGBLOOD, MURT, KING,  
BENNINGTON, GIBBONS AND PALLONE, MAY 1, 2007

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REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, MAY 1, 2007

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AN ACT

1 Requiring health insurance policies issued by insurance  
2 companies to reimburse for mental health services provided by  
3 licensed clinical social workers.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Short title.

7 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Mental Health  
8 Services Reimbursement Act.

9 Section 2. Definitions.

10 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
11 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
12 context clearly indicates otherwise:

13 "Health insurance policy." Any individual or group health  
14 insurance policy, subscriber contract, certificate or plan which  
15 provides medical or health care coverage which is offered by or  
16 is governed under any of the following:

1 (1) Any stock insurance company incorporated for the  
2 purposes set forth in section 202(c) of the act of May 17,  
3 1921 (P.L.682, No.284), known as The Insurance Company Law of  
4 1921.

5 (2) Any mutual insurance company incorporated for any of  
6 the purposes set forth in section 202(d) of The Insurance  
7 Company Law of 1921.

8 (3) Any professional health services plan corporation as  
9 defined in 40 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to professional health  
10 services plan corporations).

11 (4) Any fraternal benefit society as defined in 40  
12 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63.

13 (5) Any health maintenance organization as defined in  
14 the act of December 29, 1972 (P.L.1701, No.364), known as the  
15 Health Maintenance Organization Act.

16 (6) Any person who sells or issues contracts or  
17 certificates of insurance which meet the requirements of this  
18 act.

19 (7) Any hospital plan corporation as defined in 40  
20 Pa.C.S. Ch. 61 (relating to hospital plan corporations).

21 "Licensed clinical social worker." A provider with a  
22 master's or doctoral degree in social work who assesses,  
23 intervenes and treats individuals, families and groups with  
24 biopsychosocial problems or disorders and who holds a current  
25 advanced standing clinical license under the act of July 9, 1987  
26 (P.L.220, No.39), known as the Social Workers, Marriage and  
27 Family Therapists and Professional Counselors Act.

28 Section 3. Reimbursement for services provided by licensed  
29 clinical social workers.

30 (a) Reimbursement.--Whenever a health insurance policy

1 provides reimbursement for any mental health service which is  
2 within those areas of practice for which a licensed clinical  
3 social worker is licensed to provide, the insured or any other  
4 person covered by the policy shall be entitled to reimbursement  
5 for such service duly provided.

6 (b) Licensed clinical social worker rights.--Whenever such  
7 service is performed by a licensed clinical social worker and  
8 reimbursed by a professional health services plan corporation,  
9 the licensed clinical social worker shall be granted such rights  
10 of participation, plan admission and registration as may be  
11 granted by the professional health services plan corporation  
12 under 40 Pa.C.S. Ch. 63 (relating to professional health  
13 services plan corporations).

14 Section 4. Rules and regulations.

15 The Insurance Commissioner may promulgate such rules and  
16 regulations as are deemed necessary for the effective  
17 implementation and operation of this act.

18 Section 5. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect in 60 days.