



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

PAUL HEROUX
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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RE: H868 An Act improving access to rehabilitation counseling
DT: 15 October 2015

Dear Honorable Chair and Members of the Joint Committee on Financial Services,

Thank you for considering *H868, An Act improving access to rehabilitation counseling* before your committee on October 20th.

This bill would help those who are seeking treatment for mental health problems. In Massachusetts' law the definition of a "licensed mental health provider" does not include a "licensed rehabilitation counselor" and, because of this oversight, often insurance providers will not cover services provided by rehabilitation counselors. My bill would expand the definition to include licensed rehabilitation counselors under the definition of licensed mental health providers.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that *H868, An Act improving access to rehabilitation counseling* be released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Heroux". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline.

Paul Heroux