



An Act ensuring equitable health coverage for children (HD.2862/SD.1814)

Lead Sponsors: Rep. D. Rogers & Sen. DiDomenico

What does this bill do?

Cover All Kids would remove immigration status as a barrier to full MassHealth coverage for children and young adults under age 21 who live in Massachusetts.

Why is this bill needed?

- Tens of thousands of children and young adults in Massachusetts cannot get the health care they need only because of their immigration status.
- The complex patchwork of safety net programs currently available to these children are difficult to navigate and strictly limit or do not cover many important services.
- For example, coverage for mental health care, dental services, prescription drugs and durable medical equipment (like wheelchairs) has strict limits. Services such as autism therapy, eyeglasses, durable medical equipment, and home-based care, are not covered at all.



Why is comprehensive health coverage important for kids?



Inadequate coverage can lead to worse health outcomes and use of more expensive care through emergency departments or longer hospital stays.



Problems getting health care for children can impact the health of the whole family, especially for immigrant families who already have trouble finding care that meets their language and cultural needs.



Access to health care improves all aspects of a child's life. It helps them do better in school and take part in activities with family and friends. It even affects their health and job opportunities as an adult.

**Twelve other states have passed similar policies.
Please support Cover All Kids in Massachusetts!**

For more information, please contact:

Suzanne Curry at Health Care For All: scurry@hcfama.org

Kate Symmonds at Massachusetts Law Reform Institute: ksymmonds@mlri.org