

**SENATE . . . . . No. 538**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Nine**  
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An Act To Study Disparities In Health Care Resulting From Changes In Marital Status..

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

1           Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to the contrary, the Division  
2 of Health Care Finance and Policy is hereby directed and authorized to conduct a comprehensive  
3 study to investigate disparities in the provision of health care coverage to individuals and/or their  
4 spouses when there is a change in marital status. Said study shall include, but not be limited to,  
5 the identification and review of said disparities in both insured and self-insured plans, as well as  
6 recommendations for alleviating disparities. The Division shall provide an opportunity for  
7 interested parties to submit relevant testimony. The Division shall file a report of its study,  
8 including recommendations and drafts of any legislation, if necessary, with the clerks of the  
9 Senate and House of Representatives within one year of the effective date of this act.