

**SENATE . . . . . No. 493**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Cynthia S. Creem*

*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 adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act to study disparities in health care resulting from changes in marital status..

PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Cynthia S. Creem*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

**SENATE . . . . . No. 493**

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By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 493) of Cynthia S. Creem for legislation to order a study on disparities in health care arising out of a change in marital status. Health Care Financing.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 538 OF 2009-2010.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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