

**SENATE . . . . . No. 609**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

*Cynthia Stone 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 Stone Creem*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*First Middlesex and Norfolk*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 609**

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By Ms. Creem, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 609) 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. 568 OF 2015-2016.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninetieth General Court  
(2017-2018)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

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 the  
2           contrary, the Center for Health Information and Analysis 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 Center shall  
7           provide an opportunity for interested parties to submit relevant testimony. The Center shall file a  
8           report of its study, including recommendations and drafts of any legislation, if necessary, with  
9           the clerks of the Senate and House of Representatives within one year of the effective date of this  
10          act.