

**SENATE . . . . . No. 660**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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PRESENTED BY:

***Michael J. Barrett***

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*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 requiring the Office of Health Equity to examine health disparities including disability status and gender in five years.

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PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Michael J. Barrett*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Third Middlesex*

**SENATE . . . . . No. 660**

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By Mr. Barrett, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 660) of Michael J. Barrett for legislation to promote health equality. Health Care Financing.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 600 OF 2017-2018.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
\_\_\_\_\_

An Act requiring the Office of Health Equity to examine health disparities including disability status and gender in five years.

*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. Section 16O of chapter 6A of the General Laws, as amended by section 5  
2 of chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended by striking out, in the second sentence,  
3 the words “racial, ethnic”, and inserting in place thereof, the following:- race, ethnicity, gender.

4 SECTION 2. Subsection (a) of section 16AA of chapter 6A of the General Laws, as  
5 inserted by section 7 of chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended within the definition  
6 of “disparities”, by striking out the words “among specific racial and ethnic groups”, and  
7 inserting in place thereof the following:- between individuals based on race, ethnicity, gender  
8 and disability status.

9           SECTION 3. Subsection (c) of section 16AA of chapter 6A of the General Laws, as  
10 inserted by section 7 of chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended by striking, in the  
11 first sentence, the words “racial and ethnic health and health care”.

12           SECTION 4. Subsection (f) of section 16AA of chapter 6A of the General Laws, as  
13 inserted by section 7 of chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended, in the second  
14 sentence, by striking the words: “racial and ethnic health”.

15           SECTION 5. Section 5 of chapter 6D of the General Laws, as amended by section 8 of  
16 chapter 154 of the Acts of 2018, is hereby amended in the third sentence by striking the words  
17 “in racial, ethnic and disabled communities”, and inserting in place thereof, the following:- on  
18 the basis of race, ethnicity, gender and disability status,

19           SECTION 6. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2025.