

SENATE No. 3071

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Fourth General Court
(2025-2026)**
—

SENATE, May 26, 2026.

The committee on Health Care Financing to whom was referred the petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 889) of Paul W. Mark for legislation relative to single payer healthcare benchmarking and reporting, report the accompanying bill (Senate, No. 3071).

For the committee,
Cindy F. Friedman

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An Act establishing a study of a public health insurance option in the Commonwealth.

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 any general or special law to the contrary, the health policy commission
2 shall, in consultation with the center for health information and analysis, the commonwealth
3 health insurance connector authority, and the division of insurance, conduct a review and issue a
4 report related to establishing a public health insurance option in the commonwealth. The report
5 shall include, but not be limited to: (i) an analysis of public health options in other states and
6 jurisdictions; (ii) an analysis of public health insurance option models; (iii) an estimated cost of
7 establishing a public health option under the researched models; and (iv) a comparison of private
8 health insurance payment rates to Medicare Parts A and B payment rates. The report shall
9 include recommendations regarding: (i) a public health insurance option model; (ii) identification
10 of the appropriate state agency to administer a public health option in the commonwealth; (iii)
11 the estimated annual administrative costs to operate a public health option and proposed funding
12 mechanisms under the recommended model; (iv) proposed eligibility requirements for a public
13 health option under the recommended model; (v) the estimated premium rates for a public health
14 option at a level sufficient to fully finance the costs of such a public health option under the

15 recommended model; (vi) proposed payment rates for a public health option for services and
16 providers under the recommended model; (vii) health care provider participation guidelines and
17 processes for a public health option under the recommended model; and (viii) any other available
18 information that the commission considers necessary to fulfill its duties under this section;
19 provided, if the report indicates that a public health option under the recommended model will
20 outperform the average cost of a private health insurance plan in terms of cost-savings and
21 spending growth in the commonwealth, the report shall include draft legislation necessary to
22 implement said recommendations for the legislature's consideration. The report shall be filed
23 with the clerks of the house of representative and the senate, the house and senate committees on
24 ways and means, and the joint committee on health care financing 12 months after the effective
25 date of this act.