

SENATE No. 889

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Paul W. Mark

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 relative to single payer healthcare benchmarking and reporting.

PETITION OF:

NAME:

Paul W. Mark

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

*Berkshire, Hampden, Franklin and
Hampshire*

SENATE No. 889

By Mr. Mark, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 889) of Paul W. Mark for legislation relative to single payer healthcare benchmarking and reporting. Health Care Financing.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

An Act relative to single payer healthcare benchmarking and reporting.

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 of Chapter 12C of the General Laws as appearing in the 2022 Official Edition
2 is hereby amended by inserting after the definition of “Self-insured group” the following
3 definitions:-

4 “Single payer benchmark”, the estimated total costs of providing health care to all
5 residents of Massachusetts under a single payer health care system in the previous year, as
6 established in section 23.

7 “Single payer health care”, a system providing publicly financed, universal access to
8 health care for the population through a unified public health care plan, simplifying
9 administration and allowing the budgeting of health care spending.

10 Chapter 12C of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 24 the
11 following:-

12 Section 25. (a) The center shall monitor, review, and evaluate reports related to single
13 payer health care; provided, that the center shall also monitor the performance of single payer
14 health care systems in other states and countries. (b) The center shall establish a single payer
15 benchmark that shall be an estimate of the total cost of providing health care to all residents of
16 Massachusetts under a single payer health care system during the previous year, provided that
17 the single payer health care system offers continuous, comprehensive, affordable coverage for all
18 Massachusetts residents regardless of income, assets, health status, or availability of other health
19 coverage. (c) The center shall include in its annual report, as mandated by section 16 (a), a
20 comparison of the single payer benchmark with the actual health care spending in the state for
21 the previous year, indicating whether the state would have saved money while expanding access
22 to care under a single payer health care system.

23 Chapter 6D of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 21 the
24 following:-

25 Section 22. If at the outset of fiscal year 2026, the board determines that the single payer
26 benchmark, as calculated by the Center for Health Information and Analysis under Section 25 of
27 Chapter 12C, has outperformed the actual total health care spending and spending growth in the
28 state, the commission shall, no later than June 30, 2027, submit a “Single Payer Health Care
29 Implementation Plan” to the Legislature for consideration. The Implementation Plan will be
30 developed after holding public hearings and meetings across the state, and will consist of
31 legislation to implement a single payer health care system for Massachusetts, as defined in
32 Section 1 of Chapter 12C, and that offers continuous, comprehensive, affordable coverage for all
33 Massachusetts residents regardless of income, assets, health status, or availability of other health
34 coverage.