

**SENATE . . . . . No. 531**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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PRESENTED BY:

***Richard T. Moore***  
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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 reforming the administration of health care.

\_\_\_\_\_  
PETITION OF:

NAME:

*Richard T. Moore*

DISTRICT/ADDRESS:

**SENATE . . . . . No. 531**

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By Mr. Moore, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 531) of Richard T. Moore for legislation to establish the executive office of health and secretary of health. Health Care Financing.

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[SIMILAR MATTER FILED IN PREVIOUS SESSION  
SEE SENATE, NO. 559 OF 2009-2010.]

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the Year Two Thousand Eleven**  
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An Act reforming the administration of health care.

*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 17A of chapter 6 of the general laws as most recently  
2 appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking the words “the secretary of  
3 health and human services, and inserting in place thereof: “the secretary of human services, the  
4 secretary of health,”

5                   SECTION 2. Section 2 of chapter 6A of the general laws as most recently  
6 appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the words “health and  
7 human services,” and inserting in place thereof, “health, human services,”

8                   SECTION 3. Section 3 of chapter 6A of the general laws as most recently  
9 appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the word, “health and  
10 human services,” and inserting in place thereof, “health, the secretary of human services,”

11 SECTION 4. Section 16 of chapter 6A of the general laws as most recently  
12 appearing in the 2008 Official Edition, and amended by Section 715 of Chapter 26 of the Acts of  
13 2003, is hereby amended by striking out said section 16, and inserting in place thereof a new  
14 section:

15 Section 16. Executive Office of Human Services

16 The executive office of human services shall serve as the principal agency of  
17 the executive department for the following purposes: (a) developing, coordinating, administering  
18 and managing the welfare and human services operations, policies and programs; (b) supervising  
19 and managing the organization and conduct of the business affairs of the departments,  
20 commissions, offices, boards, divisions, institutions and other entities within the executive office  
21 to improve administrative efficiency and program effectiveness and to preserve fiscal resources;  
22 (c) developing and implementing effective policies, regulations and programs to assure the  
23 coordination and quality of services provided by the secretary and all of the departments,  
24 agencies, commissions, offices, boards, and divisions; (d) acting as the single state agency under  
25 section 1902(a)(5) of the Social Security Act authorized to supervise and administer the state  
26 programs under title XIX, for the programs under titles IV (A), IV (B), IV (E), XX and XXI of  
27 the Social Security Act, and for the programs under the Rehabilitation Act; and (e) maximizing  
28 federal financial participation for all agencies, departments, offices, divisions and commissions  
29 within the executive office and supporting similar activities in the executive office of health and  
30 mental hygiene.

31 The executive office of human services shall include: (1) the department of  
32 elder affairs under the direction of a secretary of elder affairs, who shall be appointed by the

33 governor; (2) the office of children, youth and family services, which shall include the  
34 department of social services, the department of transitional assistance, the department of youth  
35 services, the office of child care services, the child abuse prevention board and the office for  
36 refugees and immigrants; (3) the office of disabilities and community services, which shall  
37 include the department of developmental disabilities, the Massachusetts rehabilitation  
38 commission, the Massachusetts commission for the blind, the Massachusetts commission for the  
39 deaf and hard of hearing and the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts and the Soldiers' Home in  
40 Holyoke; and (4) the department of veterans' services under the direction of the secretary of  
41 veterans' services, who shall be appointed by the governor.

42         The governor shall appoint a secretary of human services, who shall serve at the pleasure  
43 of the governor and shall act as the executive officer in all matters pertaining to the  
44 administration, management, operation, regulation, planning, fiscal and policy development  
45 functions and affairs of the departments, commissions, offices, boards, divisions and other  
46 agencies within the executive office.

47         The secretary shall have the authority to: (a) through the department of elder  
48 affairs and the division of medical assistance and other agencies within the executive office, as  
49 appropriate, operate and administer the programs of medical assistance and medical benefits  
50 under chapter 118E; provided, however, that the executive office under the direction of the  
51 secretary shall be the single state agency under section 1902(a)(5) of the Social Security Act,  
52 under Title XIX agency, for programs under titles IV(A), IV(B), IV(E), XX and XIX of the  
53 Social Security Act and for programs under the Rehabilitation Act; (b) establish certain rates of  
54 payment for health care services pursuant to section 2A of chapter 118G; (c) coordinate and  
55 supervise the administration of the executive office and its agencies to promote economy and

56 efficiency and improve service delivery; (d) establish uniform regional and area boundaries for  
57 the agencies within the executive office; (e) establish uniform contracting and payment  
58 procedures for the executive office and its agencies; (f) develop and implement a management  
59 information system for the management of fiscal, client and program data necessary for the  
60 efficient administration of the agencies within the executive office; (g) pursuant to chapter 30A,  
61 make, amend and repeal rules and regulations for the management and administration of the  
62 executive office and agencies within the executive office, including regarding the sharing of  
63 data, including personal data, between and among the executive office and its agencies, subject  
64 to appropriate protections for the confidentiality of client data; (h) execute all instruments  
65 necessary for carrying out the business of the executive office and its agencies; (i) acquire, own,  
66 hold, dispose of, lease and encumber property in the name of the executive office and its  
67 agencies; (j) enter into agreements and transactions with federal, state and municipal agencies  
68 and other public institutions and private individuals, partnerships, firms, corporations,  
69 associations and other entities on behalf of the executive office or its agencies; (k) charge and  
70 collect fees, rentals and other charges as may be reasonable and necessary for carrying out the  
71 business of the executive office and its agencies; (l) apply for and accept funds, including grants,  
72 bequests, gifts and contributions on behalf of the commonwealth in accordance with section 6 of  
73 chapter 29B; and (m) serve as the executive and administrative head of each office, department,  
74 division, bureau, section, agency and other administrative unit within the executive office, except  
75 as specifically provided by law. The secretary may delegate any of the foregoing powers to an  
76 officer having charge of a department, office, division or other administrative unit within the  
77 executive office.

78                   The secretary of human services may appoint an assistant secretary for each of  
79 the following offices: disabilities and community services; and children, youth and family  
80 services. The assistant secretaries shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary and shall perform  
81 such duties as the secretary shall determine. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the  
82 contrary, the secretary may appoint an individual to serve simultaneously as the commissioner of  
83 any agency within the executive office and as an assistant secretary for the offices disability and  
84 community services; and children, youth and family services. If the secretary appoints an  
85 individual to serve simultaneously as a commissioner and assistant secretary, the individual shall  
86 only be compensated for service in 1 office.

87                   The secretary may appoint, consistent with sections 3 and 7, whatever  
88 personnel he deems necessary or desirable for the effective performance of the executive office.  
89 Such personnel shall perform such duties as the secretary shall determine and serve at the  
90 pleasure of the secretary.

91                   The secretary shall establish a performance measurement system for the  
92 agencies within the executive office, which shall establish program goals, measure program  
93 performance against those goals and report publicly on progress to improve the effectiveness of  
94 human services programs, service delivery and policy decision-making. The performance  
95 measurement system shall require each agency to develop a strategic plan for program activities  
96 and performance goals. The system shall require annual program performance reports which  
97 shall be submitted to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint  
98 committee on human services and elder affairs.

99 SECTION 5. Chapter 6A of the general laws as most recently appearing in the  
100 2008 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after section 16, two new sections:

101 Section 16A. Executive Office of Health

102 The executive office of health shall serve as the principal agency of the  
103 executive department for the following purposes: (a) developing, coordinating, administering and  
104 managing the public health and mental health, policies and programs; (b) supervising and  
105 managing the organization and conduct of the business affairs of the departments, commissions,  
106 offices, boards, divisions, institutions and other entities within the executive office to improve  
107 administrative efficiency and program effectiveness and to preserve fiscal resources; (c)  
108 developing and implementing effective policies, regulations and programs to assure the  
109 coordination and quality of services provided by the secretary and all of the departments,  
110 agencies, commissions, offices, boards, and divisions.

111 The executive office of health shall include: (1) the office of health services, which shall  
112 include the department of public health, the department of mental health, and the Betsy Lehman  
113 center for patient safety and medical error reduction; (2) the division of medical assistance; (3)  
114 the managed care oversight board; (4) the health facilities appeals board, (5) the Massachusetts  
115 nursing collaborative, (6) the health care cost and quality council, and (7) the commonwealth  
116 health connector, which shall be located within, but not subject to the control of the executive  
117 office.

118 The governor shall appoint a secretary of health, who shall serve at the pleasure  
119 of the governor and shall act as the executive officer in all matters pertaining to the  
120 administration, management, operation, regulation, planning, fiscal and policy development

121 functions and affairs of the departments, commissions, offices, boards, divisions and other  
122 agencies within the executive office.

123           The secretary shall have the authority to: (a) establish and regularly update, in  
124 accordance with the provisions of section 16A (1), a comprehensive state health policy whose  
125 mission is to enhance the health and well being as demonstrated through improved health  
126 outcomes of all Massachusetts residents by promoting accountable, yet caring; cost-effective, yet  
127 high quality health care; using evidence-based, patient-centered methods of programming,  
128 treatment, and service delivery, (b) establish certain rates of payment for health care services  
129 pursuant to section 2A of chapter 118G; (c) coordinate and supervise the administration of the  
130 executive office and its agencies to promote economy and efficiency and improve service  
131 delivery; (d) establish uniform regional and area boundaries for the agencies within the executive  
132 office; (e) establish uniform contracting and payment procedures for the executive office and its  
133 agencies; (f) share with the secretary of human services the development and implementation of  
134 a management information system for the management of fiscal, client and program data  
135 necessary for the efficient administration of the agencies within the executive office so that those  
136 seeking service from health or human service agencies or programs shall make application  
137 through a single universal application portal; (g) pursuant to chapter 30A, make, amend and  
138 repeal rules and regulations for the management and administration of the executive office and  
139 agencies within the executive office, including regarding the sharing of data, including personal  
140 data, between and among the executive office and its agencies, subject to appropriate protections  
141 for the confidentiality of client data; (h) execute all instruments necessary for carrying out the  
142 business of the executive office and its agencies; (i) acquire, own, hold, dispose of, lease and  
143 encumber property in the name of the executive office and its agencies; (j) enter into agreements

144 and transactions with federal, state and municipal agencies and other public institutions and  
145 private individuals, partnerships, firms, corporations, associations and other entities on behalf of  
146 the executive office or its agencies; (k) charge and collect fees, rentals and other charges as may  
147 be reasonable and necessary for carrying out the business of the executive office and its  
148 agencies; (l) apply for and accept funds, including grants, bequests, gifts and contributions on  
149 behalf of the commonwealth in accordance with section 6 of chapter 29B; and (m) serve as the  
150 executive and administrative head of each office, department, division, bureau, section, agency  
151 and other administrative unit within the executive office, except as specifically provided by law.  
152 The secretary may delegate any of the foregoing powers to an officer having charge of a  
153 department, office, division or other administrative unit within the executive office.

154           The secretary of health shall appoint a chief medical officer of the  
155 commonwealth, and may appoint an assistant secretary for each of the following offices: public  
156 health and wellness, health care quality and patient safety, and mental health. The assistant  
157 secretaries shall serve at the pleasure of the secretary and shall perform such duties as the  
158 secretary shall determine. Notwithstanding any general or special law to the contrary, the  
159 secretary may appoint an individual to serve simultaneously as the commissioner of any agency  
160 within the executive office and as an assistant secretary for the offices of public health and  
161 wellness, health care quality and patient safety, or mental health. If the secretary appoints an  
162 individual to serve simultaneously as a commissioner and assistant secretary, the individual shall  
163 only be compensated for service in one office.

164           The secretary may appoint, consistent with sections 3 and 7, whatever  
165 personnel he deems necessary or desirable for the effective performance of the executive office.

166 Such personnel shall perform such duties as the secretary shall determine and serve at the  
167 pleasure of the secretary.

168                   The secretary shall establish a performance measurement system for the  
169 agencies within the executive office, which shall establish program goals, measure program  
170 performance against those goals and report publicly on progress to improve the effectiveness of  
171 health programs, service delivery and policy decision-making. The performance measurement  
172 system shall require each agency to develop a strategic plan for program activities and  
173 performance goals. The system shall require annual program performance reports which shall be  
174 submitted to the house and senate committees on ways and means and the joint committee on  
175 health care financing.