

**Committee on Public Health**  
**Bill Summary**

<b>Bill No.</b>	H1358
<b>Title:</b>	<i>An Act advancing health care research and decision-making centered on patients and people with disabilities</i>
<b>Sponsor:</b>	Representative Marjorie Decker
<b>Committee:</b>	Public Health
<b>Hearing Date:</b>	June 23, 2025
<b>Similar Matters:</b>	None
<b>Prior History:</b>	Re-file of H1183 of 23-24; referred to Health Care Financing; Hearing on 9/20/23; accompanied a study order.
<b>Reporting Deadline:</b>	August 22, 2025
<b>Current Law:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● <b>M.G.L. Chapter 118E</b> pertains to the Division of Medical Assistance</li><li>● <b>M.G.L. Chapter 6D</b> pertains to the Health Policy Commission</li></ul>

**Summary:**

This bill adds new sections to M.G.L. Chapter 118E and M.G.L. Chapter 6D establishing standards for patient-centeredness. Those standards must include:

1. Evaluation of a range of research and analysis that includes outcomes prioritized by patients and people with disabilities within a specific disease area.
2. Evaluation of a range of research and analysis that looks at relevant patient subgroups to ensure consideration of important differences in preferences and clinical characteristics within patient subpopulations.
3. Scientific rigor, specifically compliance with good research practices and avoidance of patient harm.

SECTION 1 requires the Division of Medical Assistance to ensure that any portfolio of research and analysis relied upon for decision-making meets standards of patient-centeredness. The Division of Medical Assistance may not develop or use a dollars-per-quality adjusted life year or similar measures in its determinations and must include an appeals or physician override mechanism in any policy limiting patient access to healthcare treatment and services.

SECTION 2 requires the Health Policy Commission to ensure that any portfolio of research and analysis relied upon for determining the value of a healthcare treatment or service, impacting enrollee access to healthcare treatments and services, meets standards of patient-centeredness.

The Health Policy Commission may not develop or use a dollars-per-quality adjusted life year or similar measures in its determinations.