

Joint Committee on Health Care Financing 2025-2026 (194th) Bill Summary

<u>Bill Number:</u>	House, No. 1373
<u>Title:</u>	AN ACT RELATIVE TO ESTABLISHING A HEALTH SAFETY NET TASK FORCE
<u>Sponsor:</u>	Representative Steven S. Howitt (Seekonk)
<u>Hearing Date:</u>	July 15, 2025
<u>Reporting Deadline:</u>	September 13, 2025
<u>Prior History:</u>	2023-24 (H1204): A refile H1204 from the 2023-2024 legislative session. Referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. Public hearing on October 17, 2023. Accompanied a study order on May 9, 2024, see H4634. No further action taken. 2021-22 (H1277) A refile of H1277 from the 2021-2022 legislative session. Referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. Public hearing held on June 29, 2021. Accompanied a study order on October 13, 2022, see H5102. No further action taken.
<u>Similar Matters:</u>	N/A

Current Law:

M.G.L. Ch. 118E §§ 64 through 70, inclusive, governs the operations of the Health Safety Net Trust Fund administered by MassHealth.

101 C.M.R. 613 governs criteria for determining services that may be paid to Acute Hospitals and Community Health Centers by the Health Safety Net.

101 C.M.R. 614 governs the Health Safety Net assessments, payments and funding available for payments to Acute Hospitals and Community Health Centers.

Summary: The proposed legislation inserts a new section into Chapter 118E to establish a special task force to review and report on the Health Safety Net and financial impact of reimbursement for dental services provide by Massachusetts teaching hospitals and dental schools. The task force shall include members appointed by the legislature and Executive Office of Health and Human Services. The task force shall submit its report to the legislature within 12 months of the effective date of the Act.