

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY  
BILL SUMMARY**

**BILL NO.** H1706

**TITLE:** An Act to encourage quality reviews and reduce costs in health care

**SPONSOR:** Rep. William C. Galvin

**CO-SPONSOR:** None

**HEARING DATE:** July 29, 2025

**PRIOR HISTORY:** H1502 (2023-2024) H1151 (2019-2020)  
H1577 (2021-2022) H605 (2017-2018)

**SENATE BILL:** None

**REPORTING DEADLINE:** September 27, 2025 (subject extensions, in accordance with House Rule 27)

**CURRENT LAW:** Section 9 of Chapter 93A governs civil actions and remedies in business practices and consumer protections. It sets the amount of actual damages multiplied by the court is the amount of the judgment on all claims arising out of the same.

Section 204 of Chapter 111 makes the proceedings, reports and records of a medical peer review committee confidential, exempt from disclosure of public records and not subject to subpoena or discovery or introduced into evidence in any judicial or administrative proceeding unless held by boards of registration of medical professions or the department of public health.

Section 60K of Chapter 231 requires the court in malpractice actions to, after a judgment for pecuniary damages for personal injuries to the plaintiff or consequential damages, add interest on the amount of damages at a rate equal to the weekly average 1-year constant maturity Treasury yield plus 2 percent.

**BILL SUMMARY:** Section 1 - Adds language to Section 204 of Chapter 111 stating that the section applies to any committee formed by an individual health care provider, physician group practice, licensed health care

facility or any combination thereof to perform the duties or functions of a medical peer review committee.

Section 2 – Replaces Section 60K of Chapter 231 with language clarifying that the interest rate is not set by Section 6B of the chapter. It sets the maximum rate of interest at that set forth in Section 6B.

Section 3 – Adds a section to Chapter 231 that prohibits a plaintiff in a malpractice case from recovering for loss of an opportunity to survive or an opportunity to achieve a better result unless the opportunity was greater than 50%. The plaintiff carries the burden of proving this standard is met.

Section 4 – Amends language in Section 9 of Chapter 93A so the amount of actual damages multiplied by the court is the judgment interest applied to the judgment by the courts.