

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES  
2025-2026 (194<sup>th</sup>) BILL SUMMARY**

**Bill No:** H1179

**Title:** AN ACT INCREASING ACCESS TO UNIVERSAL DENTAL CARE.

**Sponsor:** Rep. Carlos Gonzalez (*Springfield*)

**Hearing Date:** October 27, 2025

**Reporting Deadline:** December 3, 2025

**Prior History:** None

**Similar Matters:** S732 (Edwards – Identical)

**CURRENT LAW:**

*M.G.L. c. 4 Statutes § 7 Definitions of statutory terms; statutory construction*

*M.G.L. c. 66 Public Records*

"Public records" means all books, papers, maps, photographs, recorded tapes, financial statements, statistical tabulations, or other documentary materials or data, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made or received by any officer or employee of any agency, executive office, department, board, commission, bureau, division or authority of the commonwealth, or of any political subdivision thereof, or of any authority established by the general court to serve a public purpose, or any person, corporation, association, partnership or other legal entity which receives or expends public funds for the payment or administration of pensions for any current or former employees of the commonwealth or any political subdivision as defined in *section 1 of chapter 32*, unless such materials or data fall within certain enumerated exemptions.

*M.G.L. c. 176Q Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector*

*42 U.S.C. § 18032 Consumer choice*

A "qualified individual" refers to an individual seeking to enroll in a qualified health plan through an Exchange and residing in the state where the Exchange is established. Specifically, they must be seeking to enroll in the individual market offered through the Exchange. They must be a citizen or national of the United States, or an alien lawfully present in the United States. Incarcerated individuals, other than those pending disposition of charges, are excluded from being considered qualified individuals.

**SUMMARY:**

This bill would create a commonwealth dental access program within the Commonwealth Connector and administered by the Connector Board, to provide access to stand-alone dental insurance plans for those residents who are ineligible to enroll in existing Commonwealth Connector dental plans due to failing to meet the federal definition of a qualified individual.