

**JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES
2025-2026 (194th) BILL SUMMARY**

Bill No: H1309

Title: AN ACT ASSURING PROMPT ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

Sponsor: Rep. Lindsay N. Sabadosa (*Northampton*)

Hearing Date: April 29, 2025

Reporting Deadline: June 28, 2015

Prior History:

2023-24 (H1140): Reported favorably; Referred to Health Care Financing; Ordered to a House Study

2021-22 (H1195): Ordered to a House Study

2019-20 (H1084, H1101): Ordered to a House Study

Similar Matters: S764 (Gomez - Identical); H1162 (Galvin); S810 (Oliveira).

CURRENT LAW:

M.G.L. c. 32A Contributory Group General or Blanket Insurance for Persons in the Service of the Commonwealth

M.G.L. c. 32B Contributory group general or blanket insurance for persons in the service of counties, cities, towns and districts, and their dependents

M.G.L. c. 118E Division of Medical Assistance (MassHealth)

M.G.L. c. 175 Insurance

M.G.L. c. 176A Non-Profit Hospital Service Corporations (Blue Cross of Massachusetts)

M.G.L. c. 176B Medical Service Corporations (Blue Shield of Massachusetts)

M.G.L. c. 176G Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs)

SUMMARY:

The bill would require that Evaluation and Management (E&M) services be part of an insurer's basic benefits package, exempting such services from patient deductibles. It would exempt health plans governed by the Federal Internal Revenue Code that would lose tax-exempt status due to the cost-sharing prohibition.

The bill would apply to all health insurance policies offered by the Group Insurance Commission to state, counties, cities, towns and districts as well as to commercial health insurers. The bill would direct the Division of Insurance to develop guidelines to implement the bill's provisions.