

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

Bill No: H1317

Title: AN ACT IMPROVING ACCESS TO BREAST PUMPS

Sponsor: Rep. Amy Mah Sangiolo (*Newton*)

Hearing Date: April 29, 2025

Reporting Deadline: June 28, 2025

Similar Matters: S682 (Creem - Identical)

Prior History:

2023-24 (H967): Reported favorably; Referred to Health Care Financing; Reported favorably; Referred to SWM

2021-22 (H1215): Reported favorably; Referred to Health Care Financing; Reported favorably; Referred to SWM; No further action taken

2019-20 (H3805): Reported favorably; Referred to Health Care Financing; No further action taken

CURRENT LAW:

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

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)

Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2023, An Act making appropriations for the fiscal year 2024 for the maintenance of the departments, boards, commissions, institutions, and certain activities of the commonwealth, for interest, sinking fund, and serial bond requirements, and for certain permanent improvements §§ 23, 56, 58, 59, 60

The Group Insurance Commission (GIC) and commercial health insurers will provide coverage for federally defined preventive services without patient cost sharing.

Federally defined preventive services means: (i) evidence-based items or services that currently have a rating of “A” or “B” in the recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF); (ii) immunizations with routine use in children, adolescents and adults that currently have a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to the individual involved;

(iii) with respect to infants, children and adolescents, evidence-informed preventive care and screenings provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration; and (iv) with respect to women, such additional preventive care and screenings not described in clause (i) as provided for in comprehensive guidelines supported by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration; provided, that federally-defined preventive services also includes all other preventive services not subject to cost-sharing, as required by established federal regulatory and sub-regulatory guidance issued on or before July 1, 2023.

If a federally defined preventive services recommendation is changed during a plan year, a health insurance carrier is not required to make changes to the health plan during that plan year.

The division of insurance (DOI) will issue implementation and enforcement guidance consistent with federal requirements and will issue any necessary guidance to update the scope of preventive services.

The USPSTF gives interventions during pregnancy and after birth to support breast feeding a B Rating.

SUMMARY:

This bill would require The Group Insurance Commission, MassHealth and commercial health insurers to provide coverage for:

- The cost of the rental and usage of a multi-user breast pump by the mother of a newborn infant who is receiving care at an intensive care or special care nursery, or has cardiac, neurological, or oral anomalies that prevent direct feeding at the breast, until the infant is discharged, or until the mother is no longer pumping breastmilk. The multi-user breast pump should be made available to the user within 24 hours of maternal hospital discharge.
- Periodic replacement parts for the multi-user breast pump including, but not limited to, connectors, valves, tubing, backflow protectors, and flanges; breast milk storage bags; and microwave bags for sterilizing the multi-user breast pump parts.
- An initial assessment, instruction and fitting by an International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLC); and an IBCLC's ongoing assessment, support and refitting as needed and prescribed by a provider.