

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

<u>Bill Number:</u>	House, No. 1353
<u>Title:</u>	RESOLVE ESTABLISHING A REPORT TO ANALYZE LONG HOSPITAL STAYS
<u>Sponsor:</u>	Representative Antonio F.D. Cabral (New Bedford)
<u>Hearing Date:</u>	June 2, 2025
<u>Reporting Deadline:</u>	August 1, 2025
<u>Prior History:</u>	New Resolve
<u>Similar Matters:</u>	S890 (Mark – Similar, Health Care Financing)

Current Law:

Chapter 6D of the Massachusetts General Laws (2025) establishes the Health Policy Commission (HPC) as an independent agency within the Executive Office of Administration and Finance to set health care cost growth goals, enhance provider organization transparency, monitor and review marketplace changes, and establish a health care cost growth benchmark for the average growth in total health care expenditures.

M.G.L. Ch. 12C establishes the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) as an independent agency tasked with collecting and analyzing health care data and publishing annual reports on health care costs, cost trends, market power, and quality data in support of the annual health care cost trends hearings conducted by the HPC.

M.G.L. Ch. 111 directs the department of public health to establish, maintain, and enforce certain offices, programs, and authorities pertaining to the general health and welfare of the Commonwealth.

M.G.L. Ch. 118E establishes the Division of Medical Assistance (MassHealth) within the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

M.G.L. Ch. 175 governs the operation, structure, and practices of companies engaged in the principle business of insurance, including insurance products issued for individual or group blanket accident and sickness.

Summary:

This resolve directs the Health Policy Commission, in collaboration with several state health agencies, to analyze and report on acute care hospital stays that exceed 60 days. The report will examine the frequency, costs, and underlying causes of prolonged hospitalizations, including patient demographics, medical conditions, insurance coverage, and immigration-related barriers to reimbursement. It will also assess obstacles to transitioning patients to appropriate care settings, hospital efforts to discharge or transfer patients safely, and the sufficiency of existing funding sources to cover hospital losses from such stays. The report will include recommendations to improve patient care transitions and ensure appropriate care levels. The findings, along with any proposed legislative actions, must be submitted to the legislature within 180 days of the resolve's enactment, which takes effect immediately upon passage.