

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

<b><u>Bill Number:</u></b>	House, No. 1368
<b><u>Title:</u></b>	AN ACT TO PROVIDE RAPID WHOLE GENOME SEQUENCING
<b><u>Sponsor:</u></b>	Representative Danielle W. Gregoire (Framingham)
<b><u>Hearing Date:</u></b>	July 15, 2025
<b><u>Reporting Deadline:</u></b>	September 13, 2025
<b><u>Prior History:</u></b>	A refile of H1197 from the 2023-2024 legislative session. Referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. Public hearing on June 6, 2023. Favorable report by the committee on October 30, 2023, and referred to House Ways and Means. No further action taken.
<b><u>Similar Matters:</u></b>	S847 (Cronin - Identical, Health Care Financing)

### **Current Law:**

**M.G.L. Ch. 6A §2** establishes the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

**Chapter 118E of the General Laws** establishes the Division of Medical Assistance (MassHealth) within the Executive Office of Health and Human Services.

### **Summary:**

This legislation requires Medicaid to cover rapid whole genome sequencing (RWGS) for certain eligible beneficiaries. RWGS is defined as a comprehensive analysis of the entire human genome aimed at identifying disease-causing genetic changes, with preliminary results delivered within five days and final results within fourteen days. Coverage is mandated for Medicaid beneficiaries who are 21 years old or younger, have a complex or acute illness of unknown cause, and are receiving inpatient hospital care in an intensive care unit or high-acuity pediatric care unit. Eligibility excludes cases where the illness is confirmed to be the result of environmental exposure, toxic ingestion, infection with a normal response to therapy, or trauma.

Additionally, access to RWGS may be subject to evidence-based medical necessity criteria based on a patient's specific symptoms and clinical presentation. The genetic data obtained through RWGS will be used primarily to support diagnosis and treatment and must comply with HIPAA regulations. The Executive Office of Health and Human Services is directed to take all necessary steps to implement these provisions, which take effect immediately upon passage.