

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

<b><u>Bill Number:</u></b>	House, No. 1407
<b><u>Title:</u></b>	AN ACT TO ENSURE MASSHEALTH RATE PARITY FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INPATIENT PROVIDERS
<b><u>Sponsor:</u></b>	Representative Adam J. Scanlon (North Attleboro)
<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 H1164 from the 2023-2024 legislative session. Referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. Public hearing on October 17, 2023. Accompanied a study order (H4634) on May 9, 2024.
<b><u>Similar Matters:</u></b>	N/A

### **Current Law:**

**M.G.L. Ch. 118E § 8A** defines certain terms as understood within the context of sections 13C to 13K, inclusive, and sections 64 to 70, inclusive, of chapter 118E, governing the Division of Medical Assistance and the MassHealth program.

**M.G.L. Ch. 118E § 12** authorizes MassHealth to enter into contracts with providers of medical services and to negotiate the rate of reimbursement to the provider under such contracts.

**M.G.L. Ch. 118E §§ 13, 13A, 13B, 13C, 13D, 13E1/2, 13F, 13J** provide for the review of MassHealth reimbursement rates or rate methodologies and requires rates to be established by contract and contingent upon performance and quality standards developed by EOHHS. Payment rates must be i) “adequate to meet the costs incurred by efficiently and economically operated facilities providing care and services in conformity with applicable state and federal laws and regulations and quality and safety standards” and ii) within the financial capacity of the commonwealth.

### **Summary:**

The proposed legislation would require MassHealth to reimburse all network inpatient behavioral health providers at an amount equal to or greater than the MassHealth fee for service per diem rate for inpatient behavioral health services.