

“An Act furthering Health Empowerment and Affordability by Leveraging Transformative Health Care”

Short Term Goals

- Reducing hospital readmissions
- Reducing prescription drug costs
- Reducing use of post-acute institutional care and integrating long term services and supports
- Reducing unnecessary use of the Emergency Department
- Short-term cost savings

Long Term Goals

- Address provider price variation
- Improve access to behavioral health
- Commercial market reforms to reduce cost growth and ensure high-quality consumer decisions
- Medicaid reforms to ensure maximum efficiency throughout the program
- Long-term cost savings

How we plan to meet those goals – bill highlights:

Short Term

- **Mobile Integrated Health** – also known as community paramedicine
- **Telemedicine** – sets guidelines for telemedicine implementation increases access to services, such as behavioral health, reducing unnecessary Emergency Department use and other healthcare overutilization
- **Pharmacy Oversight and Reforms** - HPC and CHIA oversight of the pharmaceutical industry and pharmacy benefit managers, academic detailing and prescription drug price transparency
- **Health Insurance Responsibility Disclosure (HIRD) form** – supports MassHealth premium assistance
- **Post-acute care referral consultation program** – increases awareness of community-based LTSS
- **Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund reauthorization** – also permits the PWTF to accept settlement funds
- **Senior Care Options passive enrollment** – integrates LTSS and medical care for MassHealth seniors
- **Out of Network Provider default rate**
- **Limits on the use of facility fees by hospital system**
- **Hospital readmission reduction benchmark**

Long Term

- **Provider Versatility** – expanding the license for: dental therapists, nurse practitioners, certified registered nurse anesthetists, psychiatric clinical nurse specialists, optometrists and podiatrists.
- **Limited and Tiered Network Plan overhaul** – provides new options to structure limited and tiered network products to encourage consumer participation in selecting low cost, high quality providers
- **Medicaid optional expanded plan** – permits MassHealth to offer a Medicaid buy-in program
- **Housing Security Task Force & Senior Housing Pilot Program**
- **Behavioral Health Urgent Care licensure**
- **Regulatory Efficiency Task Force**
- **Increased data coordination by MassHealth** – encourages coordination between MassHealth and other state agencies as well as with ACO program participants
- **Quality measure alignment** – establishes a uniform set of quality measures for use by CHIA, carriers and others
- **Outcomes tracking** – the Health Policy Commission is charged with tracking the outcomes of this legislation to determine its impact on its stated short term and long term goals
- **Commercial insurer alternative payment method benchmarks** – expected benchmarks for the commercial market will encourage greater adoption of risk-bearing contracts resulting in system savings
- **Sharing best practices** – establishes regional health planning councils and Health Care Trailblazer designation
- **Address Provider Price Variation**