

1 H.148

2 Introduced by Representatives Clarkson of Woodstock, Cheney of Norwich,

3 Evans of Essex, Miller of Shaftsbury, and Waite-Simpson of

4 Essex

5 Referred to Committee on

6 Date:

7 Subject: Health; health insurance; dental; vision

8 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require all  
9 health insurance plans to provide dental and vision coverage for children and  
10 adults.

11 An act relating to dental and vision coverage

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 15 is added to read:

14 Subchapter 15. Vision and Dental Services

15 § 4100I. COVERAGE FOR VISION AND DENTAL SERVICES

16 (a) Each health insurance plan offered or issued in this State shall provide  
17 coverage for vision and dental services for adults that is at least as  
18 comprehensive as that available in the Federal Employees Dental/Vision  
19 Program.

1        (b) Each health insurance plan offered or issued in this State shall provide  
2        coverage for vision and dental services for children that is at least as  
3        comprehensive as the pediatric vision and dental benefits required in the  
4        essential health benefits package for qualified health benefits plans offered  
5        through the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 1806.

6        (c) As used in this section, “health insurance plan” means any health  
7        insurance policy or health benefit plan offered by a health insurer, as defined in  
8        18 V.S.A. § 9402, including plans offered through the Vermont Health Benefit  
9        Exchange pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 1811 as well as Medicaid and any other  
10       public health care assistance program offered or administered by the State or  
11       by any subdivision or instrumentality of the State. The term does not include  
12       policies or plans providing coverage for specified disease or other limited  
13       benefit coverage.

14       Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

15       This act shall take effect on October 1, 2013 and shall apply to all health  
16       insurance plans on and after October 1, 2013 on such date as a health insurer  
17       offers, issues, or renews the health insurance plan, but in no event later than  
18       October 1, 2014.