

**H.481: Reps. Donahue and Woodward amendment
to Rep. Patt amendment**

Sec. Y. DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENTS TO PROVIDERS

The Green Mountain Care Board shall consider the impact of hospitals purchasing independent physician practices on health care system costs, as well as the effects of differential reimbursement for different types of providers when providing the same services billed under the same codes.

The Board shall determine whether its existing regulatory authority provides it with the tools necessary to reduce the disparity in reimbursements to hospital-owned physician practices and independent physician practices and the disparity in reimbursements to different providers for the same services.

If the Board finds that it has the necessary authority to reduce ~~the disparity~~ these disparities, it shall exercise that authority to the greatest extent practicable. If the Board finds that it does not have the necessary authority, it shall propose draft legislation by November 1, 2015 to the House Committee on Health Care, the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance, and the Health Reform Oversight Committee that increases its authority in a manner that will allow the Board to achieve reductions in payment differentials in the future.