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S.152

Senator Ashe moves that the Senate concur with the House Proposal of Amendment with further proposal of amendment by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

Sec. 1. 21 V.S.A. § 2002 is amended to read:

§ 2002. DEFINITIONS

~~For the purposes of~~ As used in this chapter:

* * *

(5) “Uncovered employee” means:

(A) an employee of an employer who does not offer to pay any part of the cost of health care coverage for its employees;

(B) an employee who is not eligible for health care coverage offered by an employer to any other employees; or

(C) an employee who is offered and is eligible for coverage by the employer but elects not to accept the coverage and either:

(i) has no other health care coverage under either a private or public plan; or

(ii) has purchased health insurance coverage as an individual through the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange.

* * *

1 Sec. 3. 33 V.S.A. § 1811(l) is added to read:

2 (l)(1) A registered carrier shall include in its rates filed pursuant to
3 8 V.S.A. § 4062 an administrative charge of one percent of projected premium
4 costs on plans sold in the Exchange to fund the operation of the Exchange.

5 The Green Mountain Care Board shall finalize the amount of the
6 administrative charge and include the amount in the approved rate.

7 (2)(A) The Department of Vermont Health Access shall retain the
8 amount of the administrative charge from premiums collected through the
9 Exchange and shall deposit the funds collected pursuant to this section in the
10 State Health Care Resources Fund established by section 1901d of this title.
11 Funds collected pursuant to this section shall be used only for purposes related
12 to the operation of the Exchange.

13 (B) The Department shall, in collaboration with registered carriers,
14 develop a mechanism for collecting any premiums paid by individuals directly
15 to a registered carrier.

16 (3) The Exchange website shall clearly indicate the amount of the
17 administrative charge included in the premium for each health benefit plan
18 offered through the Exchange.

19 Sec. 4. EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGE REPORTING

20 (a) The Governor's budget submitted to the General Assembly in
21 accordance with 32 V.S.A. § 306 for fiscal year 2016 shall include the

1 estimated budget for the Exchange for that fiscal year and the estimated
2 amount of the administrative charge to be imposed pursuant to 33 V.S.A.
3 § 1811(l) beginning on January 1, 2016, based on premium rates approved by
4 the Green Mountain Care Board.

5 (b) On or before February 1, 2017, the Department of Vermont Health
6 Access shall report to the House Committees on Health Care and on Ways and
7 Means, the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance, and the
8 House and Senate Committees on Appropriations regarding the revenues
9 collected pursuant to 33 V.S.A. § 1811(l), including recommendations for any
10 needed modifications to the amount of the administrative charge.

11 Sec. 5. EFFECTIVE DATES

12 (a) Secs. 1 (employer assessment definition), 2 (employer assessment
13 fund), and 4 (exchange surcharge reporting) of this act and this section shall
14 take effect on January 1, 2014.

15 (b) Sec. 3 (exchange surcharge) of this act shall take effect on January 1,
16 2015 to incorporate into rate review for insurance plans with coverage
17 beginning January 1, 2016.

18
19 and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating
20 to health care financing”