

**HHC budget memo language for Rep. Poirier**

Sec. A. DEPARTMENT OF LIQUOR CONTROL; COMPLIANCE PLAN

The Department of Liquor Control shall develop a detailed plan by which the Department anticipates achieving at least 94 percent compliance in its tests of tobacco licensees' compliance with the prohibition on sales of tobacco products to minors. On or before January 15, 2017, the Department shall submit its plan to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

Sec. B. OFFICE OF HEALTH CARE ADVOCATE; FUNDING

The sum of \$160,716.00 is appropriated from the General Fund to the Office of the Health Care Advocate in fiscal year 2017. These funds, when added to those appropriated elsewhere in this budget, will enable the Office to carry out its duties fully as required by 18 V.S.A. chapter 229.

Sec. C. 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 79, Sec. 37d, is amended to read:

Sec. 37d. HEALTH CARE ADVOCATE; BILL BACK

(a) Through June 30, ~~2016~~ 2018, financial support for the Office of the Health Care Advocate established pursuant to 18 V.S.A. chapter 229 for services related to the Green Mountain Care Board's and Department of Financial Regulation's regulatory and supervisory duties shall be considered expenses incurred by the Board or the Department under 18 V.S.A. §§ 9374(h) and 9415 and shall be an acceptable use of the funds realized pursuant to those sections.

\* \* \*

## Sec. D. HEALTH CARE ADVOCATE FUNDING; REPORT

On or before January 15, 2017, the Joint Fiscal Office shall present to the House Committees on Health Care, on Ways and Means, and on Appropriations and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare, on Finance, and on Appropriations sustainable funding options for the Office of the Health Care Advocate. In developing the options, the Joint Fiscal Office shall consider the amounts and mechanisms that would be necessary to establish consumer financing of the Office of the Health Care Advocate through a health insurance surcharge.