


**Department of Vermont Health Access**  
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## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Rep. William Lippert, Chair, House Committee on Health Care  
Sen. Claire Ayer, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Welfare  
Sen. Ann Cummings, Chair, Senate Committee on Finance

**CC:** Al Gobeille, Secretary, Agency of Human Services

**FROM:** Cory Gustafson, Commissioner, Department of Vermont Health Access 

**DATE:** December 21, 2017

**RE:** [Act 25 of 2017](#), Section 3 – Enrollment Trends in Bronze-Level Qualified Health Plans

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Act 25 of 2017, Sec. 3 amends Act 165 of 2016, Sec. 6 OUT-OF-POCKET PRESCRIPTION DRUG LIMITS; 2018 PILOTS; REPORTS to include the following report language:

*On or before February 1, 2018, the Department of Vermont Health Access shall report to the House Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance: (1) enrollment trends in bronze-level qualified health benefit plans offered on the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange; and (2) recommendations from the advisory group established pursuant to subsection (a) of this section regarding (A) whether there is a need for flexibility in the design of bronze-level plans on the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange for plan years after plan year 2019; and (B) if there is a continued need for flexibility in the design of bronze plans, options for enabling that flexibility without limiting or eroding the value or availability of the protection afforded by the out-of-pocket prescription drug limit established in 8 V.S.A. §4089i.*

Enrollment into 2018 qualified health plans will be complete in December; however, DVHA does not have instant access to enrollment information for individuals and small businesses enrolling directly with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont and MVP Healthcare (approximately two-thirds of the QHP market). Comprehensive enrollment information to support this report will not be available until mid-January.

**The Department of Vermont Health Access requests a one-month extension to submit this report and recommendations to legislative committees until March 1.** This timing will allow DVHA to report with full 2018 bronze plan enrollment information and recommendations from the broad-based stakeholder group founded on comprehensive results.