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H.225

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Introduced by Representative Yacovone of Morristown

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Referred to Committee on

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Date:

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Subject: Health; health care reform; universal health care; Medicare for All

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Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to direct the

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Agency of Human Services to explore the potential to establish a regional

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Medicare for All or similar universal, publicly financed health care program in

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cooperation with other states. The Agency would report its findings and

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recommendations to the General Assembly by January 15, 2020.

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An act relating to exploring the potential for a regional universal health care  
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It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

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Sec. 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS

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The General Assembly finds that:

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(1) Health care costs in Vermont are already unaffordable for many

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residents and continue to increase at an unsustainable rate.

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(2) Health care spending in Vermont has been increasing at more than

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2.5 times the rate of inflation.

1           (3) Per capita spending on health care in Vermont was \$9,539.00 in  
2           2016, the most recent year for which information is available.

3           (4) Though the relatively small size of Vermont's population has  
4           complicated the State's efforts to launch a universal, publicly financed health  
5           care program on its own, the proximity of similarly situated states in the  
6           Northeast makes a regional universal health care program an attractive option  
7           worth exploring.

8           Sec. 2. EXPLORING THE POTENTIAL FOR A REGIONAL UNIVERSAL  
9           HEALTH CARE PROGRAM; REPORT

10           The Agency of Human Services shall explore the potential for establishing a  
11           regional Medicare for All or similar universal, publicly financed health care  
12           program in cooperation with other states in the Northeast. The Agency shall  
13           identify the opportunities and challenges that would be presented by partnering  
14           with other states and shall report them, along with its other findings and  
15           recommendations, to the House Committees on Health Care, on Human  
16           Services, on Appropriations, and on Ways and Means and the Senate  
17           Committees on Health and Welfare, on Appropriations, and on Finance on or  
18           before January 15, 2020.

19           Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

20           This act shall take effect on passage.