

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Health Care to which was referred House Bill No. 795
3 entitled “An act relating to increasing hospital price transparency” respectfully
4 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be
5 amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu
6 thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE BOARD; PRICE TRANSPARENCY
8 DASHBOARD; PRIVATE PAY PRICING; REPORT

9 On or before February 1, 2021, the Green Mountain Care Board shall report
10 to the House Committee on Health Care and the Senate Committees on Health
11 and Welfare and on Finance regarding its progress in developing and
12 implementing a public, interactive, Internet-based price transparency
13 dashboard for use by health care consumers, including the results of the
14 Board’s efforts to validate VHCURES data through comparison with hospital
15 discharge data and with information from the health insurers and the status of
16 the Board’s work with the various payers to incorporate location information
17 into VHCURES data. The Board shall also include in the report any
18 information ascertained from the validation process regarding payments for
19 services by patients without health insurance coverage, as well as the
20 information the hospitals track relating to self-pay patients and the means by

1 which hospitals may provide information to the Board in the future regarding
2 actual amounts paid for services by patients without health insurance coverage.

3 Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 9411 is added to read:

4 § 9411. INTERACTIVE PRICE TRANSPARENCY DASHBOARD

5 (a) The Green Mountain Care Board shall develop and maintain a public,
6 interactive, Internet-based price transparency dashboard that allows consumers
7 to compare health care prices for certain health care services across the State.
8 Using data from the Vermont Healthcare Claims Uniform Reporting and
9 Evaluation System (VHCURES) established pursuant to section 9410 of this
10 title, the dashboard shall provide the range of actual allowed amounts for
11 selected health care services, showing both the amount paid by the health
12 insurer or other payer and the amount of the member’s responsibility, and shall
13 allow the consumer to sort the information by geographic location, by health
14 care provider, by payer type, and by the specific health care procedure or
15 health care service. The Board shall provide a link on the dashboard to the
16 statewide comparative hospital quality report published by the Commissioner
17 of Health pursuant to section 9405b of this title.

18 (b) The Board shall update the information in the interactive price
19 transparency dashboard at least annually.

1 Sec. 3. INTERACTIVE PRICE TRANSPARENCY DASHBOARD;
2 DEMONSTRATION; RECOMMENDATIONS; REPORT

3 (a) On or before February 1, 2022, the Green Mountain Care Board shall
4 provide a demonstration of the interactive price transparency dashboard
5 developed pursuant to 18 V.S.A. § 9411 to the House Committees on Health
6 Care and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance.

7 (b) In addition to the demonstration required by subsection (a) of this
8 section, on or before February 1, 2022, the Green Mountain Care Board shall
9 provide recommendations to the House Committee on Health Care and the
10 Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance regarding ways in
11 which the price transparency dashboard may be expanded to provide
12 information on health care quality, on actual amounts charged to patients
13 without health insurance coverage after the application of any relevant charity
14 care policies or other discounts, and on other claims and payment data not
15 currently collected by VHCURES.

16 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

17 (a) Secs. 1 (Green Mountain Care Board; price transparency dashboard;
18 private pay pricing; report), 3 (interactive price transparency dashboard;
19 demonstration; recommendations; report), and this section shall take effect on
20 passage.

1 (b) Sec. 2 (18 V.S.A. § 9411) shall take effect on July 1, 2020, with the
2 interactive price transparency dashboard becoming available for use by the
3 public as soon as it is operational, but in no event later than February 15, 2022.

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15 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE