

1 S.135

2 Introduced by Committee on Finance

3 Date: April 6, 2021

4 Subject: Health; health insurance; individual market; small group market; plan  
5 year 2022

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require health  
7 insurers offering health benefit plans through the Vermont Health Benefit  
8 Exchange to offer separate plans to the individual and small group markets for  
9 plan year 2022 and to apply community rating separately to the plans in each  
10 market.

11 An act relating to separating the individual and small group health  
12 insurance markets for plan year 2022

13 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

14 Sec. 1. SEPARATING THE INDIVIDUAL AND SMALL GROUP HEALTH  
15 INSURANCE MARKETS FOR PLAN YEAR 2022

16 (a) Purpose. The purpose of this act is to allow for separate individual and  
17 small group health insurance markets for plan year 2022 in light of the  
18 increased opportunities for federal premium assistance available through the  
19 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, Pub. L. No. 117-2, to eligible households  
20 purchasing qualified health benefit plans in the individual market.

1        (b) Definitions. As used in this section, “health benefit plan,” “registered  
2        carrier,” and “small employer” have the same meanings as in 33 V.S.A.  
3        § 1811.

4        (c) Separate plans and community rating. Notwithstanding any provision  
5        of 33 V.S.A. § 1811 to the contrary, for plan year 2022, a registered carrier  
6        shall:

7            (1) offer separate health benefit plans to individuals and families in the  
8        individual market and to small employers in the small group market;

9            (2) apply community rating in accordance with 33 V.S.A. § 1811(f) to  
10        determine the premiums for the carrier’s plan year 2022 individual market  
11        plans separately from the premiums for its small group market plans; and

12            (3) file premium rates with the Green Mountain Care Board ~~and forms~~  
13        ~~with the Department of Financial Regulation~~ pursuant to 8 V.S.A. § 4062  
14        separately for the carrier’s individual market and small group market plans.

15        Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

16        This act shall take effect on passage.