1   TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2   The Committee on Health Care to which was referred Senate Bill No. 239

3   entitled "An act relating to enrollment in Medicare supplemental insurance

4   policies" respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends

5   that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended in Sec. 2,

6   Medicare supplemental coverage; Medicare advantage plans; Department of

7   Financial Regulation; report, as follows:

8   First: By striking out subsection (a) in its entirety and inserting in lieu

9   thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

10   (a) The Department of Financial Regulation shall convene a group of

11   interested stakeholders, including Vermonters eligible for Medicare by reason

12   of age, disability status, or end stage renal disease and representatives of the

13   Community of Vermont Elders, the area agencies on aging, the Office of the

14   Health Care Advocate, and the Department of Vermont Health Access to

15   consider issues relating to the availability of, enrollment in, and use of

16   supplemental coverage by individuals enrolled in Medicare or a Medicare

17   Advantage plan. A majority of the stakeholders shall not have a financial stake

18   in any Medicare supplemental coverage or Medicare Advantage product.

19   Second: In subsection (b), by adding a new subdivision to be subdivision

20   (4) to read as follows:

1   (4) the costs of Medicare Part B premiums, Medicare Part D plans,

2   Medicare supplement plans, and Medicare Advantage plans; the effect of those

3   costs on access to health care for Vermonters with low income who are not

4   eligible for Medicaid or for a Medicare Savings Program; the income

5   eligibility thresholds for Medicare Savings Programs in Vermont and in other

6   states; and whether Vermont should consider revising the income eligibility

7   thresholds for its Medicare Savings Programs;

8   and by renumbering the remaining subdivisions in subsection (b) to be

9   numerically correct

10   (Committee vote: _____)

11   _____

12   Representative _____

13   FOR THE COMMITTEE