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H.82

SHORT FORM

Introduced by Representatives Holcombe of Norwich and Casey of Montpelier

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; health care reform; Green Mountain Care Board; Division of

Planning and Evaluation; hospitals; rate-setting

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

Division of Planning and Evaluation at the Green Mountain Care Board. The

Division would be responsible for preparing a report on the status of

Vermont's health care system that enables the public to understand health care

system costs, performance, access, and quality. The Division would also be

responsible for preparing a five-year statewide strategic plan for improving

population health and for increasing Vermonters' access to high-quality,

affordable health care, including ensuring that Vermonters living in rural

communities have appropriate access to primary care and hospital services.

The Division would establish total-cost-of-care spending growth targets and

recommend steps that the Green Mountain Care Board and others could take to

achieve the targets while improving access to and the quality of care. The

Division would also develop a proposal for achieving universal access to

1 affordable, high-quality primary care and community-based mental health  
2 services in Vermont.

3 The bill would direct the Green Mountain Care Board to implement, and to  
4 identify any additional regulatory authority it would need to implement, the  
5 statewide strategic plan and total-cost-of-care spending growth targets  
6 established by the Division of Planning and Evaluation. The bill would also  
7 direct the Board, in collaboration with hospitals and other interested  
8 stakeholders, to develop a standardized process for financial reporting. The  
9 bill would require the Board to create a process for promoting alignment  
10 between the statewide strategic plan and hospitals' strategic plans and budgets.  
11 The bill would allow the Board to modify its timelines for hospital budget  
12 reviews and hospital and insurer rate-setting in order to increase alignment and  
13 efficiency. The bill would also direct the Board to evaluate alternative  
14 approaches to regulating hospital budgets, including using reference-based  
15 pricing and global hospital budgets, in order to align hospital spending with  
16 both the statewide strategic plan and the total-cost-of-care spending growth  
17 targets.

18 The bill would add several new positions and additional resources to the  
19 Green Mountain Care Board for the Division of Planning and Evaluation,  
20 provider rate setting and expanded budget review, and financial compliance  
21 and auditing. The bill also proposes alternative funding sources for certain

1 payments to health care providers, including population health management  
2 payments, comprehensive payment reform payments, and payments through  
3 the Blueprint for Health and Support and Services at Home (SASH) programs,  
4 that have been linked to earlier funding models and will soon expire.

5 An act relating to establishing the Division of Planning and Evaluation and  
6 strengthening the regulatory capacity of the Green Mountain Care Board

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

8 (TEXT OMITTED IN SHORT-FORM BILLS)