

1 H.776

2 Introduced by Representatives Spengler of Colchester, Burke of Brattleboro,
3 Christie of Hartford, Davis of Washington, Fay of
4 St. Johnsbury, Moran of Wardsboro, and O'Sullivan of
5 Burlington

6 Referred to Committee on

7 Date:

8 Subject: Health; Green Mountain Care; benefits; financing

9 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to change the
10 benchmark benefit package for Green Mountain Care, increase the actuarial
11 value of the coverage, and adopt standards for Green Mountain Care financing.

12 An act relating to Green Mountain Care benefits and financing

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

14 Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 1821a is added to read:

15 § 1821a. STANDARDS FOR GREEN MOUNTAIN CARE FINANCING

16 The design of the financing mechanism for Green Mountain Care shall be
17 guided by the following standards:

18 (1) Consistency with the purpose of Green Mountain Care as expressed
19 in subsection (a) of this section.

1 (2) The principle of equity, expressed in 18 V.S.A. § 9371(1) and (11),
2 shall be the principal consideration in the development of the Green Mountain
3 Care public financing mechanism. The principle of equity requires the State of
4 Vermont to ensure that the financial contributions that individuals and
5 businesses make to the health care system are directly proportional to their
6 earned and unearned income, wealth, and business size in order to account
7 fully for their ability to pay.

8 (3) In order to avoid creating any barriers to accessing health care,
9 Green Mountain Care shall, in accordance with 18 V.S.A. § 9371(1):

10 (A) eliminate all premiums, fees, deductibles, and co-pays, thus fully
11 separating payments from the use of care; and

12 (B) decouple access to health care from employment.

13 (4) In order to improve population health and identify and address
14 unmet health needs in a timely and comprehensive manner, Green Mountain
15 Care shall:

16 (A) provide all needed health care services, equipment, and
17 pharmaceuticals, including diagnostic testing, preventive services, treatment of
18 a condition, and after-care, that a treating health care professional determines
19 to be appropriate for a patient's diagnosis or condition in terms of type,
20 amount, frequency, level, setting, and duration;

1 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.