



Please Support An Act to Restore Affordable Health Connector Coverage (H592/S630)

Lead Sponsors: Representative Balsler & Senator Jehlen

Background

The state's ConnectorCare program provides federal and state subsidies to help low and moderate income Massachusetts residents pay for health insurance through the Health Connector. Recent ConnectorCare premium increases and the likely repeal of key provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) reduces the availability of affordable health coverage options and puts the ConnectorCare program at risk.

This legislation keeps subsidized Health Connector coverage affordable for consumers.

Why is this legislation needed?

- In 2013, the Legislature repealed affordability protections that had been enacted as part of the 2006 Massachusetts health reform law. This bill restores this language and further **protects consumers from drastic premium and cost-sharing increases.**
- Numerous ConnectorCare members saw **premium increases for 2017 coverage.** These members are left with the difficult choice of spending of their very limited income on higher premiums to avoid losing access to their providers or switching health plans and losing continuity of care.
- **Potential repeal of or changes to the Affordable Care Act (ACA)** puts coverage for over 180,000 ConnectorCare members at risk. By codifying affordable coverage for lower income residents, the state solidifies its commitment to ensuring Massachusetts residents remain covered.
- ConnectorCare plays an important role in **maintaining Massachusetts' high rate of health insurance coverage.** Without the ConnectorCare program and the proposed affordability protections, we risk people dropping coverage, going without necessary care, falling into debt, and unraveling the gains we have made under both the Massachusetts health reform law and the ACA.

Please contact Suzanne Curry at Health Care For All with questions:
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ACT!! Coalition Member Organizations

AARP Massachusetts	Massachusetts Association of Behavioral Health Systems
Action for Boston Community Development, Inc.	Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition
AIDS Action Committee	Massachusetts Building Trades Council
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network	Massachusetts Business Leaders for Quality, Affordable Health Care
American Heart Association / American Stroke Association	Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics
Association for Behavioral Healthcare	Massachusetts College of Emergency Physicians
Boston Center for Independent Living	Massachusetts Communities Action Network
Boston Children's Hospital	Massachusetts Council of Community Hospitals
Boston Medical Center	Massachusetts Immigrant and Refugee Advocacy (MIRA) Coalition
Boston Public Health Commission	Massachusetts Health Council
Cambridge Health Alliance	Massachusetts Health & Hospital Association
Children's Health Access Coalition	Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
Coalition for Social Justice	Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers
Committee of Interns and Residents/SEIU Healthcare	Massachusetts Medical Society
Community Catalyst	Massachusetts Organization for Addiction Recovery
Community Servings	Massachusetts NOW
Disability Policy Consortium	Massachusetts Public Health Association
Episcopal City Mission	NARAL Pro-Choice Massachusetts
Families USA	National Association of Social Workers – Massachusetts Chapter
Greater Boston Interfaith Organization	Neighbor to Neighbor Massachusetts
Greater Boston Legal Services	Partners HealthCare
Health Care For All	Public Policy Institute
Healthcare for Artists	32BJ SEIU New England 615
Health Law Advocates	1199 SEIU United Healthcare Workers East
Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts	Tobacco Free Mass
Joint Committee for Children's Health Care in Everett	Treatment Access Expansion Project
JRI Health	UMass Memorial Health Care
Massachusetts Academy of Family Physicians	
Massachusetts Association of Community Health Workers	