

# AN ACT ESTABLISHING MEDICARE FOR ALL IN MASSACHUSETTS

Sponsors: Sen. Jamie Eldridge & Rep Lindsay Sabadosa



**Bill S.744/H.1239** would create a single-payer health care system guaranteeing accessible, affordable, and quality coverage **as a right** while saving money for residents, businesses, and state and local government.

## Why This Matters

The current health care system in Massachusetts places **unnecessary barriers** to accessing affordable health care coverage. While over 97% of residents report having health care coverage, rising health care costs are overwhelming household, business, municipal, and state budgets. Massachusetts has one of the **highest per capita** health care costs in the country with **over 70%** of insured residents reporting issues with affordability. Moving to a Medicare for All “single-payer” system would help control health care costs in the long-term while ensuring that every resident has a right to quality, affordable health care.

## Benefits of a Medicare for All System

**A single payer system** would save about **29%** of our current spending on health care, take the burden of rising health care costs off of most small businesses, municipalities, and families, eliminate medical debt and medical bankruptcy, and guarantee access to quality, affordable health care as a right for all residents of the Commonwealth. **Universal coverage will provide predictable, sustainable resources to better plan for illness and injury prevention and protection of individuals and community health, creating a more robust public health system.**



### Medicare For All

This bill would create the Massachusetts Health Care Trust to provide **universal health care covering all medically necessary care**. This plan would be similar to Medicare, but **with** broader coverage and **without** deductibles, premiums, or copayments.



### RoadMap to Transition

The **29 member Board of Trustees**, including but not limited to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Administration and Finance, the Commissioner of Public Health, and two Single Payer advocates, **will be tasked with establishing clear processes to transition to Medicare for All.**



### Equitable & Reliable Funding

This bill would create a **7.5%** employer payroll tax (8% on organizations with 100+ employees), **2.5%** employee payroll tax, and **10%** each on unearned income and self-employed payroll tax, **each with a \$20,000 exemption**. Employers could choose to pay all or part of the employees' portion of the payroll tax. Collective bargaining agreements would continue to be recognized and the Mass Health Care Trust will help **retrain workers**.

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