

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

STATE REPRESENTATIVE 2ND BRISTOL DISTRICT

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> S574 An Act relative to equitable health care pricing RE:

7 March 2016 DT:

Dear Honorable Chairs and Members of the Joint Committee on Healthcare Financing,

Thank you for considering S574, An Act relative to equitable health care pricing before your committee on September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The goal of this legislation is to keep care in our local hospitals. Smaller community hospitals are closing across the Commonwealth because of inequalities in the reimbursement process. The bill would prohibit healthcare providers and private health insurance companies from entering into contracts that would pay hospitals more than 20% above the average amount paid to similar healthcare providers for the same healthcare services

Thank you for your time and consideration of this bill. I respectfully request that S574, An Act relative to equitable health care pricing released favorably and expeditiously from your committee.

Sincerely,

Paul Heroux