

**Ch. 197 of the Massachusetts Laws of 2024, Section 30 requiring  
Mass. Department of Public Health study and report on public  
guardian costs and benefits**

SECTION 30. (a) The department of public health shall study and report on the need and feasibility of qualified professional guardians to give informed medical consent for indigent persons and whether such guardians would reduce hospital discharge issues and increase access to long-term care and preventive care; provided, however, that the report shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) the need for qualified professional guardians to assist indigent persons with accessing appropriate medical care, including preventive care;

(ii) data on the current number of Rogers guardians and similar guardians and the financial impact of reimbursing such guardians;

(iii) the fiscal impact of establishing MassHealth fee-for-service guardians;

(iv) consideration of the benefits to an individual and cost to the commonwealth of deducting from an applicant for MassHealth or a MassHealth member's income for guardianship fees and related expenses when the appointment of a guardian is essential to enable an applicant or member to gain access or

consent to medical treatment and an estimation of reasonable costs for such a deduction; and

(v) other recommendations deemed necessary by the department.

(b) Not later than July 31, 2025, the department shall submit its report, including any proposed legislation necessary to carry out its recommendations, to the clerks of the senate and house of representatives, the senate and house committees on ways and means and the joint committee on elder affairs