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H.529

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Introduced by Representatives Partridge of Windham and Lippert of Hinesburg

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Referred to Committee on

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Date:

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Subject: Health; health insurance; mastectomy; coverage for inpatient care

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Statement of purpose: This bill proposes to require health insurers to cover

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inpatient care for at least 48 hours following a mastectomy.

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An act relating to inpatient hospital care for mastectomy patients

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

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Sec. 1. 8 V.S.A. chapter 107, subchapter 12 is added to read:

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Subchapter 12. Mastectomy Coverage

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§ 4100i. MASTECTOMY INPATIENT CARE

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(a) Health insurers shall provide coverage for inpatient care in connection

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with a mastectomy, lymph node dissection, or breast conserving surgery for at

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least 48 hours following the surgery or procedure, or longer if the patient's

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attending physician determines that a longer stay is medically necessary.

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(b) As used in this subchapter, "health insurer" means insurance companies

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that provide health insurance as defined in subdivision 3301(a)(2) of this title,

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nonprofit hospital and medical services corporations, and health maintenance

1 organizations. The term does not apply to coverage for specified disease or
2 other limited benefit coverage.

3 Sec. 2. APPLICABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE

4 This act shall take effect on October 1, 2010, and shall apply to all health
5 benefit plans on and after October 1, 2010, on such date as a health insurer
6 offers, issues, or renews the health benefit plan, but in no event later than
7 October 1, 2011.