



Testimony submitted to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing
In Support of S.1114 – An Act to eliminate Health disparities in the Commonwealth
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The League of Women Voters of the United States and of Massachusetts have long supported efforts to ensure equal access to quality health care for all.

You have probably seen Senator Barrett's map which shows that if you get off the T at Dudley Square or Maverick, the diabetes rate is 11%; if you get off at Mattapan, it's 10%; if you get off at Arlington, it's 3%.

S.1114 aims to strengthen the organizational structure currently in place so that these and other health care disparities can be determined, studied and actions taken to eliminate them.

As provided in this bill, the placement of the Office of Health Equity under the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and the requirement of an annual plan to reduce, in collaboration with other state agencies, the social and economic factors that influence health care inequality is a needed step in the right direction.

Especially during this time of increased awareness of disparities experienced in our population, it seems critical that you to pass this bill out of committee, see that is passed in the General Court and implemented in General Law.

The League of Women Voters of Massachusetts urges you to do so.

Thank you for your consideration