

## SUMMARY OF AN ACT RELATIVE TO PROMOTING HEALTH CARE ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY FOR PATIENTS

### A. ELIMINATING SUNSET ON COPAY ASSISTANCE LAW (Section 1)

- Permanently establishes the ability under current law of pharmaceutical manufacturers to provide copay assistance in Massachusetts for drugs without generic equivalents.

### B. REQUIREMENT THAT HEALTH PLANS SHARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG REBATES WITH PATIENTS (Section 2)

- Requires health care plans to pass at least 80% of rebates received from pharmaceutical companies on covered drug products to patients in the form of lower copayments at the pharmacy counter.

### C. GENE AND CELL THERAPY PIPELINE PROJECTION AND ACCESS ASSESSMENT (Section 3)

- Requires EOHHS and HPC to assess barriers that may exist with respect to access by MassHealth beneficiaries to gene and cell therapies projected to be available in the Commonwealth within the next 10 years.
- Requires an assessment of adequacy of existing reimbursement frameworks and methodologies, as well as healthcare infrastructure, for ensuring access.
- Requires report containing policy solutions to be completed and made publicly available in consultation with MassBio, the Massachusetts Hospital Association, the Conference of Boston Teaching Hospitals and the Rare Disease Advisory Council.