The cost of health and health care in the United States for years has been a highly visible topic of discussion for consumers, employers, state and federal policymakers and the media. This NCSL project researched and compiled a series of 16 briefs and other related reports aimed at a broad audience, providing options and examples of successful and experimental efforts to control health costs.

The topics described by NCSL include:

- Administrative Simplification in the Health System
- Global Payments to Health Providers
- Episode-of-Care Payments (Bundled Payments)
- Collecting Health Data: All-Payer Claims Databases
- Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs)
- Performance-Based Health Care Provider Payments
- Equalizing Health Provider Rates: All Payer Rate Setting
- Use of Generic Prescription Drugs and Brand Name Discounts
- Prescription Drug Agreements and Volume Purchasing
- Pooling Public Employee Health Benefit Programs
- Combating Fraud and Abuse
- Medical Homes
- Employer-Sponsored Health Promotion Programs
- Public Health and Cost Savings
- Health Care Provider Patient Safety (with medical error reduction)
- Medical Malpractice Reform
- Prescription Drug Abuse
- Health Information Technology
- Health Savings Accounts (HSAs)
- Patient Decision Aids
- Value-Based Insurance Design (VBID)
- Health Price Disclosure and Transparency

For access to the 16 briefs and related reports please go to: http://www.ncsl.org/?tabid=19200