



Colorado Legislative Council Staff

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MEMORANDUM

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TO: Interested Persons

FROM: Amanda King, Senior Research Analyst, 303-866-4332
Bill Zepernick, Senior Fiscal Analyst, 303-866-4777
Elizabeth Haskell, Committee Staff, 303-866-6264

SUBJECT: Overview of the Colorado Health Insurance Exchange Oversight Committee

Summary

This memorandum provides an overview of the 2015 membership of the Colorado Health Insurance Exchange Oversight Committee, charge and activities of the committee, and information regarding committee staff and the committee website.

2015 Committee Membership

Senator Ellen Roberts, Chair

Senator Irene Aguilar
Senator John Kefalas
Senator Kevin Lundberg
Senator Beth Martinez Humenik

Representative Beth McCann, Vice-Chair

Representative Lois Landgraf
Representative Dianne Primavera
Representative Su Ryden
Representative Lang Sias

Background

The Legislative Health Benefit Exchange Implementation Review Committee was established under Senate Bill 11-200, which created the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange, which operates as Connect for Health Colorado (exchange). Connect for Health Colorado is the state's insurance exchange under the federal Affordable Care Act. Through Connect for Health Colorado, consumers may shop for and purchase health insurance, determine their eligibility for public health assistance programs such as Medicaid, and receive advance premium tax credits to help purchase qualified health insurance. Senate Bill 15-256 changed the name of the committee to the Colorado Health Insurance Exchange Oversight Committee (committee) and increased the number of meetings permitted. The committee has several key functions, including reviewing the financial and operational plans of the exchange and approving the appointment of an executive director to administer the exchange.

Committee Details and Charge

The committee is charged with reviewing grants applied for by the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange Board of Directors (board) to implement the exchange, reviewing the financial and operational plans of the exchange, and approving the appointment of an executive director to administer the exchange. The board is required to submit a report on the exchange's financial and operational plans to the committee annually.

Meeting Dates and Activities

The committee is required to meet at the call of the chair at least two times during each calendar year, but is allowed to meet an unlimited number of times during the legislative session and up to seven times per year outside of the legislative session. The committee met four times during the 2015 legislative session: on March 18, April 1, April 15, and April 29. At the first two meetings, the exchange's staff and board updated the committee on the activities of the exchange. Additionally, the committee formed a subcommittee to review the board's recent efforts to hire an executive director for the exchange. At the remaining two meetings, presentations were made by representatives of the Colorado Association of Health Plans, the Colorado State Association of Health Underwriters, the Colorado Consumer Health Initiative, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), and the subcommittee.

Thus far during the legislative interim, the committee has met three times: May 13, June 5, and July 15. During these meeting, the exchange's staff and board provided additional information to the committee on the activities of the exchange; representatives of the Colorado Division of Insurance and the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing presented information about their experience collaborating with the exchange to implement the provisions of the Affordable Care Act; and representatives of the Colorado Health Institute, the Independence Institute, and NCSL presented information about their perceptions of the exchange and the possibility of utilizing Section 1332 Innovative Waivers to make changes to the current system.

The two remaining 2015 meeting dates for the committee are September 11 and October 27. The agendas for these meetings have not yet been set, but it is expected that the main focus of these meetings will be the discussion and presentation of any legislation the committee develops to address the concerns and needs of administering the exchange. To date, the committee has not brought forth legislation.

Committee Staff and Website

The Legislative Council Staff is charged with assisting the committee in its activities. If you have any questions or would like any additional information about the committee or issues concerning the committee, please contact any of the following committee staff:

- Amanda King, Senior Research Analyst, amanda.king@state.co.us, 303-866-4332
- Bill Zepernick, Senior Fiscal Analyst, bill.zepernick@state.co.us, 303-866-4777
- Elizabeth Haskell, elizabeth.haskell@state.co.us, 303-866-6264

Documents distributed during the meetings and meeting summaries may be found on the committee website at:

<http://www.colorado.gov/LCS/ExchangeReviewComm>.