

Healthcare Coverage Reform Initiative

Second Insurer/Agent Stakeholder Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 19, 2007

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Lobby Conference Room

Ohio Department of Insurance (ODI)

2100 Stella Court, Columbus, OH 43215

Attendees:

Joe Stevens, Janet Grant, Vaughn Flasher, Scott Bowers, Pat Fitch, Caroline Fraker, Doug Freeman, Paula Locs, Joe Novak, Kathleen Crampton, Alan Berliner, David Fogarty, Danielle Angel, Kathie Mancini, John Patterson, Kelly McGivern, Trish Decensi, Chris Whistler, Travis Garrison, Sean Mentel, Ken Statz, Keith Shoemaker, Debbie Bahnson, Doug Anderson, Malika Bartlett, Kevin Tyler, Marjorie Ellis, Suparna Bhaskaran.

1. Doug Anderson from the Ohio Department of Insurance welcomed the participants. He emphasized that the purpose of the meeting is to provide an overview of the last 2-3 months of developments in regards to the Health Care Coverage Initiative. Additionally, he mentioned, that he welcomed feedback from the audience and said their concerns would be considered. He also added that some members of the Advisory Committee were present in the audience. Doug also had everyone in the room introduce themselves.
2. Doug then proceeded with a power point presentation, which is available at www.healthcarereform.ohio.gov. He also encouraged questions and comments anytime during this presentation.
3. During the course of the meeting, the following issues were raised:
 - a. A participant asked whether an individual mandate was discussed at the Chicago SCI meeting. Doug explained that the experts in Chicago said that you need a mandate to get near universal coverage. The experts recommended an individual mandate more than an employer mandate.
 - b. A participant asked for a definition of a connector. Doug explained that a connector is a public-private partnership that regulates the marketplace for products offered by insurers to the uninsured. The connector would enforce rules about rating, price, eligibility and benefits. It would have a board. It would administer low-income subsidies. It would approve plans for sale through the connector.
 - c. Someone asked who is the industry representative? Richard Stoff of the Ohio Business Roundtable is on the SCI Team.
 - d. A participant asked if there are 200,000 kids who are uninsured. Doug said he did not know the number off the top of his head.

- e. A participant asked about the timeline. Doug explained that by early January the actuary will have developed models loaded with Ohio information and will evaluate the different reform scenarios. The SCI Team and Advisory Committee will review and provide recommendations to the Governor. The goal is to provide the Governor with recommendations at the beginning of 2008. Legislation will follow.
- f. A participant asked if a list of scenarios to model will be published. Doug said the Advisory Committee will discuss scenarios at its meeting tomorrow (Nov. 20th, 2007).
- g. A participant asked if the group would model a mandate just to see how it works, despite what the Governor has said? Doug said “yes.”
- h. A participant asked about modeling the state employee plan. Doug explained that is the least developed scenarios. We are currently looking at it and discussing it. Will meet with DAS to flesh it out further.
- i. Another participant asked about wellness initiatives. Doug explained the Department of Health is addressing issues concerning population health and prevention. Cindy Burnell of the Office of Healthy Ohio is working on programs to prevent disease and make people healthier. In addition, the Partnership to Fight Chronic Disease recently launched in Ohio. The modeling also will look at the impact of wellness and prevention.
- j. A participant asked: “What do you need from us?” Doug stressed the importance of getting industry input and feedback. Companies should provide feedback about modeling scenarios or any other aspect of the initiative. Doug and other members of the team can meet with companies and other interested parties individually or groups.

4. Meeting Adjourned