Adequate Health Care Task Force Meeting Summary Tuesday, July 25, 2006 10:30 AM – 2:00 PM

Illinois Public Act 93-0973, formerly House Bill 2268, creates the Health Care Justice Act and encourages the State of Illinois to implement a health care plan that provides access to a full range of preventive, acute, and long-term health care services; maintains and improves the quality of health care services offered to Illinois residents, and meets other criteria. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) is required, subject to an appropriation or availability of other funds, to enter into a contract with an "independent research entity" experienced in assessing health care reforms, financing, and care delivery models. The provisions of this legislation establish an "Adequate Health Care Task Force" with 29 voting members: five to be appointed by the Governor, and six appointments made by each of the four leaders of the General assembly (the Speaker of the House and the House Minority Leader, and the President of the Senate and the Senate Minority Leader). The Directors of the Departments of Public Health, Public Aid, Aging, and Insurance, along with the Secretary of the Department of Human Services, are to be invited to meetings of the "Adequate Health Care Task Force," but are not included in the Task Force's membership. The Department of Public Health is required to be "the primary agency in providing administrative support" to the Task Force.

This legislation provides for public hearings in each Illinois Congressional District, and a website detailing the work of the Task Force, accessible through the Governor's internet home page, is to be established and maintained. Printed copies of Task Force information are to be made available for persons who lack access to the Internet website. A Task Force report, detailing recommendations for a health care access plan as specified within the legislation, is to be submitted to the General Assembly by March 15, 2006. The bill encourages the General Assembly to consider legislation enacting the Task Force recommendations by December 31, 2006. The Act took effect July 1, 2004.

Task Force Members in Attendance: Dr. Craig Backs; Catherine Besler; Colleen Kannaday; Timothy Carrigan; Jan Daker; Margaret Davis; J. Terry Dooling; Jim Duffet; Dr. Arthur Jones; David Koehler; Dr. Wayne Lerner; Dr. Niva Lubin-Johnson; Senator Iris Martinez; Pamela Mitroff; James Moore; Tracey Printen; Ken Robbins; Joe Roberts; Gregory Smith; Dr. Quentin Young

Regrets (Task Force Members): Anthony Barbato; Kenneth Boyd; Rep. Elizabeth Coulson; Joseph Orthoefer; Ruth Rothstein; Kenneth Smithmier; Senator Donna Trotter

State Agency Representatives: Dr. Anne Marie Murphy, Medicaid Director, Department of Healthcare and Family Services

Illinois Department of Public Health Staff: David Carvalho; Sherry Sherman; Sarah Duggan; Elissa Bassler; Randy Hall

Research Entity: Gwyn Davidson, Navigant Consulting; Cathrine Srevokich, Navigant Consulting; Deborah Chollet, Lynn Taylor, Mathematica Policy Research; Rob Damler, Milliman; Heather Brown-Palsgrove, Navigant Consulting

Guests: Dr. Diane Rucinski, University of Illinois, Chicago

- The meeting was called to order at 10:40 am by Dr. Wayne Lerner, Chair. Task Force members, IDPH staff and guests then introduced themselves.
- Dr. Lerner suggested the Task Force utilize the meeting to have Navigant Consulting present the evaluation of the six proposals. Since the Task Force did not receive the models until Monday and they were very complex, the Task Force members would benefit from having time to review the materials thoroughly before debating the models.
- The May 23rd Meeting Summary was approved.
- David Carvalho reviewed the bylaws originally adopted by the Task Force and answered questions regarding the bylaws.
- Catherine Srekovich, Navigant Consulting, presented to the Task Force on the evaluation process utilized by the Research Entity to score the proposals and reminded the group of the criteria approved at the 7/7 Task Force meeting. She also outlined how the Research Entity planned to present their findings to the Task Force.
- Gwyn Davidson, Navigant Consulting, presented to the Task Force the scoring of each proposal, how they went about scoring the proposals and answered questions from Task Force members regarding the scoring.
- Lynn Taylor, Mathematica Policy Research, and Rob Damler, Milliman, presented to the Task Force on the cost and access models developed for each proposal, how they were developed, the purpose of the models and answered questions from the Task Force regarding the calculations.
- There was an extensive discussion of the insurance administrative costs utilized in the model and comparable costs for a public program.
- Lynn Taylor, Mathematica Policy Research, gave a brief presentation to the Task Force on effective strategies to utilize when evaluating proposals.
- Catherine Srekovich, Navigant Consulting, presented to the Task Force on the basic features of the Hybrid Proposal developed by the consulting team.
- There was extensive discussion on how the high deductible plan presented in the Hybrid Model would work.
- Deborah Chollet, Mathematica Policy Research, presented to the Task Force on the process the consulting team utilized to develop the Hybrid Model and why they chose the components included in the Model.
- Dr. Lerner opened the floor for comments and questions on the evaluation of the proposals and the Hybrid Model.
- There was a discussion of the role of the insurance broker in the Hybrid Model.
- Dr. Craig Backs made a motion to only move forward the three Models that came the closest to insuring everyone for further evaluation. Those models included the Single Payer Model, Campaign for Better Health Care/Health Model and Disability Advocates and the Hybrid Model.
- Ms. Margaret Davis seconded the motion.
- There was extensive discussion regarding whether to move forward with this motion.
- The motion was not passed.
- The Task Force discussed whether or not to extend the timeline for finishing the project. There was extensive discussion on the topic and it was decided that a meeting on October 26 would be added to the schedule.
- David Carvalho suggested the Task Force members send their questions regarding the six models to him or Elissa Bassler to be forwarded to the consulting team. The response to the questions then would be shared with the Task Force.
- The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 pm.