

**Adequate Health Care Task Force
Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 15th, 2006
3:35 PM – 3:45 PM
Michael A. Bilandic Building
160 North LaSalle Street, Room N-505
Chicago, Illinois**

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.

Steering Committee Members in Attendance: David Koehler, Wayne Lerner, Joe Roberts, Quentin Young

Steering Committee Members Absent: Ruth Rothstein

Illinois Department of Public Health Staff: David Carvalho, Sherry Sherman, Mike Jone

Illinois Public Health Institute Staff: Elissa Bassler

Guests: Catherine Sreckovich, Gwyn Davidson, Candace Williamson, (Navigant Consulting); Jim Duffett (Campaign for Better Health Care); Elena Butkus (Illinois Hospital Association)

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Dr. Wayne Lerner, Chair, called the Adequate Health Care Task Force Steering Committee meeting to order at approximately 3:35 PM. Minutes of the July 25 Steering Committee meeting were distributed, action was deferred to the September 26 meeting.

II. Steering Committee Work Plan/Next Steps

The Committee discussed whether everyone had a common understanding of the motion that passed: that Navigant is developing a 7th proposal (variation on 6th/hybrid) with cost and access numbers, and that all the proposals previously provided are still on the table.

SC members agreed that this was their understanding.

The committee reviewed the process that had just occurred, and the outcome, and felt that the Task Force meeting had had the desired result of having something to move forward with, but no one is shut out.

The committee acknowledged that there is still the possibility of a minority report.

Next steps:

- Navigant will provide their next set of documents to the Task Force by Wednesday, 9/20.
- The Committee expects that the final meeting (October 26) will be a formality: voting on a final report/recommendation that will be agreed to at the September meeting.

Joe Roberts moved to adjourn, Dave Koehler seconded.

Meeting adjourned 3:45 p.m.