

**Adequate Health Care Task Force
Steering Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 26, 2006
2:45 – 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, Ruth Rothstein, Quentin Young

Steering Committee Members Absent: None

Illinois Department of Public Health Staff: Elissa Bassler, David Carvalho,

Guests: Catherine Sreckovich, Gwyn Davidson, Candace Williamson, (Navigant Consulting); Lynn Taylor, (Mathematica). Other members of the Task Force and public attended as observers. Copley News Service and Chicago Tribune reporters remained as observers.

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Dr. Wayne Lerner, Chair, called the Adequate Health Care Task Force Steering Committee meeting to order at approximately 2:45 PM.

Joe Roberts moved acceptance of the 7/25/06 and 8/15/06 Steering Committee minutes. Question Young seconded. Motion approved on a voice vote.

II. Next Steps

Dr. Lerner indicated that two issues needed discussion and resolution by the Steering Committee:

1. Administrative process for incorporating minority report(s) in the AHCTF report
2. Process for obtaining resolution on a majority plan proposal

Minority Report(s)

Dave Carvalho has been informed that one or more members of the TF have been “lobbying” other members to block the generation of any minority reports. Carvalho indicated that in his view the majority cannot block a minority viewpoint. However, the SC could establish guidelines regarding length, deadlines, appropriateness for any minority reports to be included in the official final report .

The SC members agreed, and determined that minority reports would be included in the final report by the TF. The SC asked IDPH staff to draft minority report parameters for approval by the SC. Minority reports won't be edited, with the exception of assuring their appropriateness with regard to scandalous or libelous material.

As a reminder, under the Open Meetings Act any meetings among members on TF business must be among less than a majority of a quorum. This includes “serial” meetings, not just meetings in one place/time. A quorum of the TF is 15. Discussions among TF members regarding minority reports outside official meetings must be limited to 7 or fewer members, whether all together at once or serially. If more than 7 members wish to meet to discuss a minority report or other TF business, the Open Meetings Act requirements for notice, openness to the public and minute-taking would apply.

Process

The SC discussed what is needed to achieve a final consensus/majority report. The issues raised in the TF meeting with regard to the Hybrid2 model need to be categorized and addressed.

There seems to be an emerging majority around Tier II of the Hybrid2 model, with some additional discussion and analysis. It appears there will be at least two minority reports, one from the insurance industry representatives, and one from the single payer advocates. The SC indicated its

hope that the minorities would contribute to the crafting of the majority report, to make it as “good” as it can be from their perspective, while still having the ability to disagree with the whole. The question was asked whether members of the minority could vote for the majority report going forward, while still maintaining their minority view. The answer was yes, if that’s how the motion was structured.

During the week of 10/2 & 10/9, Navigant will hold a series of conference calls with groups of TF members around the following six issues:

- Insurance Market Changes
- Provider Payments
- Provider Supply
- Medicaid Expansion
- Impact of Employer Assessments and Individual Mandates
- Sources of Funding

The 10/26 TF meeting will be cancelled.

The SC will meet by conference call on 10/17/06 (9:00 a.m.) to hear a report from Navigant on the subgroup meetings and the options for changes/additional analysis to the Hybrid2 model, and will provide Navigant with instruction on what changes to incorporate into the model to create the final plan for approval by the TF.

The TF will meet on Monday, November 20 to vote on the final plan. TF members will receive the revised Hybrid2 plan at least one week before the 11/20/06 meeting.

Navigant will write the final report, to be completed by 12/20/06 and it will be delivered to the TF. Because of the holidays, the TF will have its final meeting on January 9, 2007 to approve the final report. Minority reports will be due to IDPH by Friday 12/29/06. The full final report, with minority reports included, will be sent to the TF on January 2, 2007.

VI. Adjournment

Dr. Lerner adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:45 PM.

Next Meeting:

The Steering Committee will meet by conference call on October 17, 2006.

The subsequent Steering Committee meeting will take place immediately after the Task Force meeting (approximately 2:30PM) on Monday, November 20, 2006, place TBD.