

Health Insurance Reform Advisory Committee

Minutes

November 15, 2006

10 AM

Room B

350 Winter Street NE

Salem, Oregon

Members Present: Matt Davis (replacing Steve Tagmeyer), Ed Nieuburt, Dean Kortge, Nancy Nevins, Kim Wirtz, Steve Doty, and Dan Field.

Members Absent: Angela Kimball, Lori Long, Rick Rebel, Lisa Trussel, Lynn-Marie Crider, Ellen Pinney, LoriAnn Sheridan, Rocky King, and Laura Cooper.

Insurance Division Staff Present: Joel Ario, Shelley Bain, Jan Miller, Mike Lydon, Doreen Buller, and Elizabeth McMahon.

Others Present: Drew Hagedorn, Claudia Grimm, Don Myron, Carolyn Jarschke, Linnea Saris, Tiffany Harms, David Rosenfeld, Muriel Dittler, Elise Brown, Jim Gravette, and Theresa Neibert.

CALL TO ORDER

Shelley Bain, Oregon Insurance Division Senior Policy Analyst, called the HIRAC meeting to order at 10 AM and explained that Joel Ario will be coming into the meeting later.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the July 19, 2006, HIRAC Meeting Minutes were reviewed. Dean Kortge moved to adopt the minutes; Steve Doty seconded Mr. Kortge's motion. The July 19, 2006 HIRAC Meeting Minutes were approved and adopted.

Advisory Committee for COB

The committee was given a copy of the rules and statement of need. Shelley reported that the rules would be filed with secretary of state this afternoon, changing the date to January 1, 2008. The Department has added a review of the rules in two years to consider the fiscal effect.

Counting of Employees for SEHI & HIPPA

The Committee had a discussion about how to initially count employees for purposes of SEHI and HIPPA small groups. The Division will work on the SEHI census form and try to get the form completed by the end of the year.

Low Cost Portability and Mental Health Parity

The Committee discussed whether mental health coverage should be removed from the low cost portability plans. The Department will consider the carriers' recommendation that the coverage be removed and will report back to the Committee at the January meeting.

RATE BANDS

Increasing the Rate Bands and Other Rating Factors in SEHI

The Committee discussed the sunset on the 2.5:1 SEHI rate bands and the 2008 sunset. Joel stated that the Division would not seek to repeal the sunset.

Hospital Cost Transparency Data Call

The Division is moving ahead with the examination of hospital paid claim information. The target release date for the data is March 1, 2007.

UCR/Transparency Legislative Concepts

Joel discussed the Departments legislative concepts including the transparency/UCR Bill. The language in the bill will be close to what was originally released.

Associations

The Department has not seen any legislative concepts concerning associations and does not have any plans to introduce an association bill.

The Department's goal is to create a level playing field between all the different entities that deal with small groups. The Department maintains that individual health status may not be used for rating for association plans.

The Division will continue to investigate the use of health status (in associations.) aggressively.

NEXT MEETING

The next HIRAC meeting will be January 17, 2006, 10 AM in Room B.

Meeting adjourned at 11:49 AM by Joel Ario.