

CHAPTER 422

INSURANCE

HOUSE BILL 07-1360

BY REPRESENTATIVE(S) Massey and McGihon, Borodkin, Casso, Green, Kefalas, Labuda, Madden, Peniston, Riesberg, Roberts, Soper, Stafford, Todd, and Merrifield;
also SENATOR(S) Shaffer, Boyd, and Romer.

AN ACT

CONCERNING THE OPERATION OF THE BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION FOR HEALTH CARE REFORM.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. 10-16-131 (2), (3) (d) (V), (4) (a), (4) (b) (III), (4) (b) (IV), (5) (a), and (5) (c), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said 10-16-131 is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF THE FOLLOWING NEW SUBSECTIONS, to read:

10-16-131. Health care reform project - blue ribbon commission for health care reform - repeal. (2) There is hereby established IN THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH the blue ribbon commission for health care reform, ~~hereinafter~~ referred to IN THIS SECTION as the commission, for the purpose of studying and establishing health care reform models to expand health care coverage and to decrease health care costs for Colorado residents. THE "PROCUREMENT CODE", AS ESTABLISHED IN ARTICLES 101 TO 112 OF TITLE 24, C.R.S., SHALL NOT APPLY TO THE COMMISSION. The commission shall be authorized to examine options for expanding affordable health coverage for all Colorado residents in both the public and private sector markets, with special attention given to the uninsured, underinsured, and those at risk of financial hardship due to medical expenses. The commission shall have the authority to establish special purpose subcommittees with nonvoting members to evaluate and consider health care issues as it deems necessary to fulfill its goals and objectives, including issues of access, cost, value, and personal health responsibility, and may establish bylaws, policies, and procedures necessary to meet its objectives.

(3) (d) The commission shall:

(V) Present a final report to the ~~general assembly~~ HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, on or before ~~November 30, 2007~~ JANUARY 31, 2008, including an unbiased economic analysis, feasibility, and technical assessment of the favorable and unfavorable considerations and of the various reform options, and specific recommendations, that shall be considered by the health and human services committees of the house of representatives and the senate, or any successor committees.

(4) (a) The commission shall be administered by a nonpartisan project administrator. The project administrator shall be appointed jointly by the speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate for the purpose of managing the work of the commission. The project administrator shall be a Colorado-based, nonpartisan individual or organization with expertise in health care policy, data collection and analysis, report generation, organizing public meetings, and managing project budgets and processes. The speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the senate shall appoint a project coordinator who shall be responsible for the coordination and delivery of the final report presented to the general assembly pursuant to subparagraph (V) of paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of this section; OBTAINING GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION; PREPARING AND DELIVERING FINANCIAL REPORTS TO THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE; coordination of project objectives, timelines, and regular liaison activities between the project administrator, the general assembly, and interested persons; and for providing information to the general public regarding the health care reform efforts outlined in this section.

(b) The project administrator shall organize a process to identify insurance reform proposals generated applicable to Colorado from interested parties. The process shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(III) The commission shall submit from three to five of the proposals deemed most favored by the commission to an independent consulting firm selected by the commission for technical comparative analysis of cost impacts, utilization, design, and other areas. THE PROJECT COORDINATOR SHALL CONTRACT WITH THE SELECTED INDEPENDENT CONSULTING FIRM.

(IV) On or before ~~November 30, 2007~~ JANUARY 31, 2008, the commission shall present the final report required pursuant to subparagraph (V) of paragraph (d) of subsection (3) of this section to the ~~general assembly~~ HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, OR ANY SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, which shall include summaries of the proposals and the results of the technical analysis.

(4.5) LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STAFF AND THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE LEGAL SERVICES MAY ASSIST THE COMMISSION WHEN SUCH ASSISTANCE IS APPROVED BY THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE.

(5) (a) There is hereby created in the state treasury the health care reform cash fund. The fund shall consist of moneys appropriated by the general assembly to the fund and MAY CONSIST OF gifts, grants, and donations from donors who shall remain

anonymous to the project administrator and the members of the commission. THE MONEYS IN THE HEALTH CARE REFORM CASH FUND SHALL BE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED. The moneys in the health care reform cash fund and all interest earned on moneys in the fund shall not be credited or transferred to the general fund at the end of any fiscal year.

(c) The money in the health care reform cash fund ~~shall~~ MAY be used for the development of the three to five proposals REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF PARAGRAPH (b) OF SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION; for technical costs and a feasibility study; to fund the project administrator and project coordinator positions; to cover costs of statewide hearings; to pay the members of the commission reasonable and necessary expenses, including a per diem amount set by the commission not to exceed one hundred dollars per meeting, travel expenses, and out-of-pocket expenses related to the duties of the member; TO PAY FOR LEGAL COUNSEL OR OTHER PROFESSIONALS TO ASSIST THE COMMISSION IN ITS DUTIES; and for any other expenses necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

(5.5) GIFTS, GRANTS, AND DONATIONS MADE TO THE PROJECT COORDINATOR ON BEHALF OF THE COMMISSION MAY BE USED:

(a) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE THREE TO FIVE PROPOSALS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (III) OF PARAGRAPH (b) OF SUBSECTION (4) OF THIS SECTION;

(b) FOR TECHNICAL COSTS AND A FEASIBILITY STUDY;

(c) TO FUND THE PROJECT ADMINISTRATOR AND PROJECT COORDINATOR POSITIONS;

(d) TO COVER COSTS OF STATEWIDE HEARINGS;

(e) TO PAY THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION REASONABLE AND NECESSARY EXPENSES, INCLUDING A PER DIEM AMOUNT SET BY THE COMMISSION NOT TO EXCEED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS PER MEETING, TRAVEL EXPENSES, AND OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES RELATED TO THE DUTIES OF THE MEMBER;

(f) TO PAY FOR LEGAL COUNSEL OR OTHER PROFESSIONALS TO ASSIST THE COMMISSION IN ITS DUTIES; AND

(g) FOR ANY OTHER EXPENSES NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION.

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: June 1, 2007