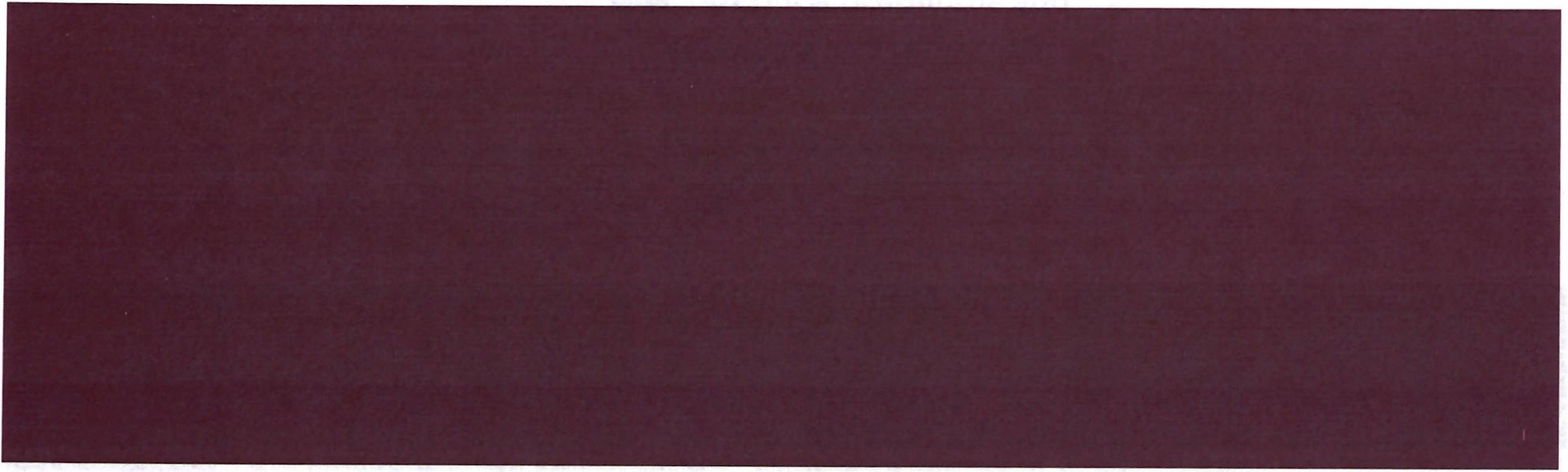


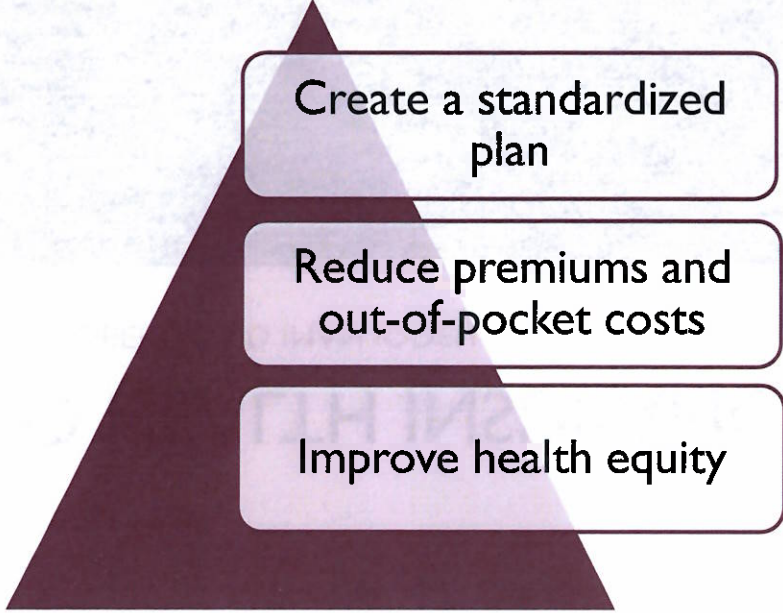
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# THE COLORADO HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION

HB21-1232: REPRESENTATIVES DYLAN ROBERTS AND IMAN JODEH



## GOALS



Create a standardized  
plan

Reduce premiums and  
out-of-pocket costs

Improve health equity

## WHAT WILL HB21-1232 ACCOMPLISH?

**HB21-1232** is a long-term solution to create affordable insurance options and work within the existing insurance marketplace to make it easier for Coloradans, including people of all races, geographic locations, and incomes, to afford and access health insurance when they need it.

## OVERVIEW

- Why does Colorado need a health insurance option?
- What does the bill do?
- Who benefits?
- How does this bill help health equity?
- How do Coloradans feel about a Colorado insurance option?



HB21-1232

# WHY DOES COLORADO NEED A HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION?

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“

1 in 5 Coloradans forgo  
medical care that they need  
because the cost is too high.

”

# COLORADANS CAN'T AFFORD THEIR HEALTH CARE.

## Privately Insured

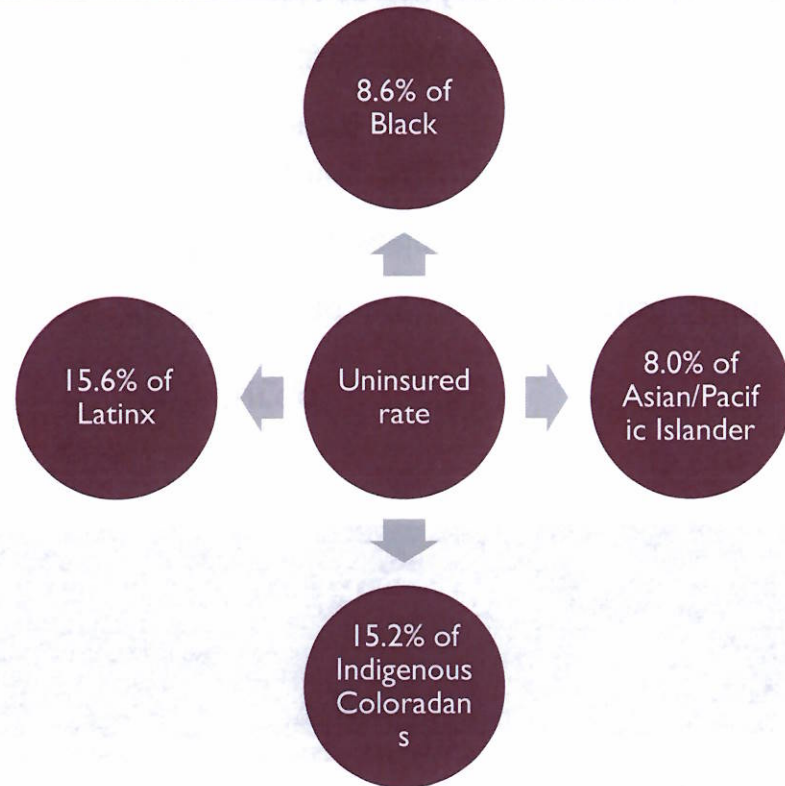
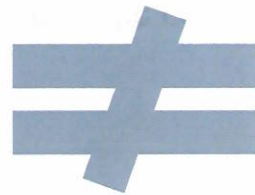
- 9.3% skipped doctor care because of the cost
- 10.5% skipped seeing a specialist due to the cost
- 29.5% have not had a preventative care visit in the past 12 months
- 14.2% struggle to pay medical bills
- 25.2% unable to pay for necessities like food, heat, or rent due to medical bills

## Uninsured

- 40.2% skipped doctor care because of the cost
- 30.2% skipped seeing a specialist due to the cost
- 67.8% have not had a preventative care visit in the past 12 months
- 28.3% struggle to pay medical bills
- 39.4% unable to pay for necessities like food, heat or rent due to medical bills
- 89.6% of reported the cost of insurance for being uninsured

# COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

White Coloradans have the lowest uninsured rate at 6.8%.

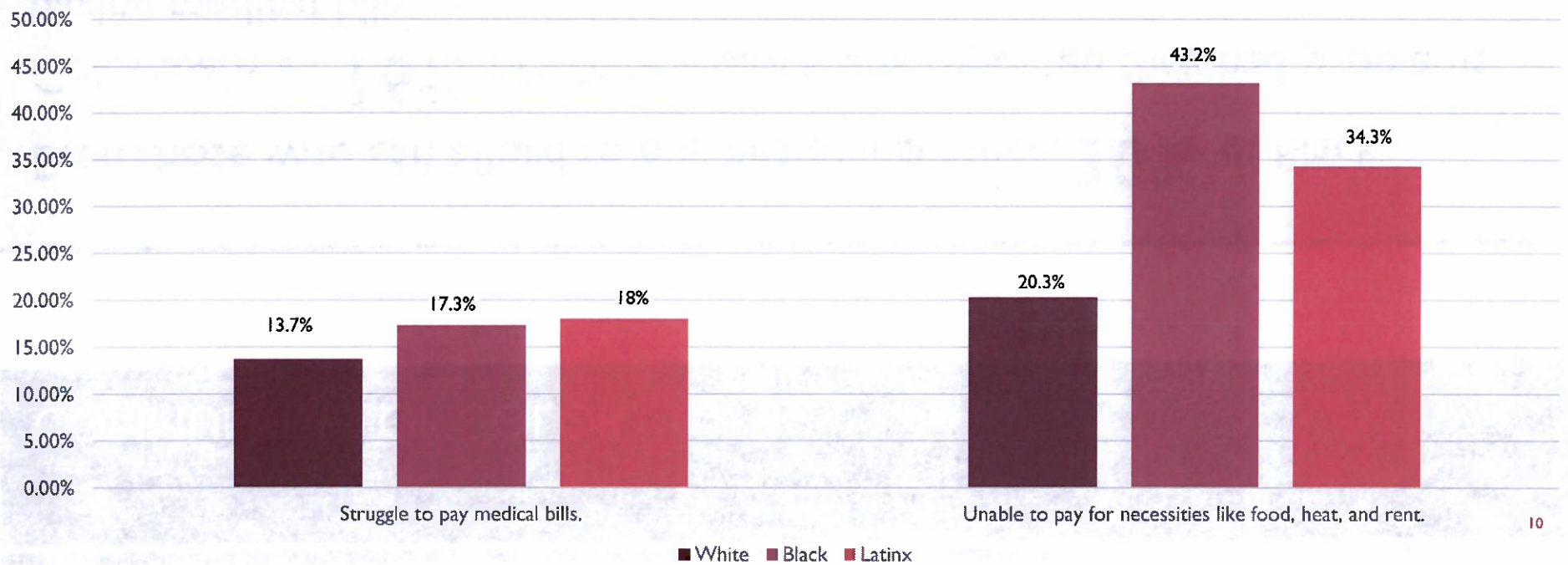


## COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

Even those who can afford to buy health insurance, **30%** of Black Coloradans vs. **16%** of White Coloradans reported they had problems paying medical bills.

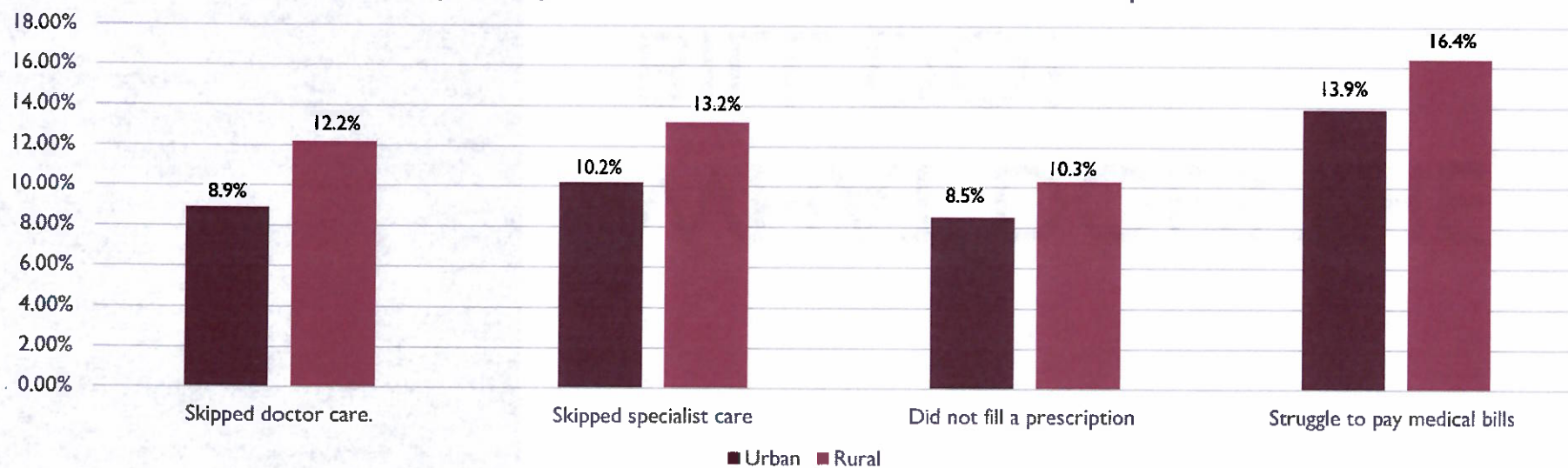
# COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

The impact of costly medical coverage :White / Black / Latinx



# RURAL COMMUNITIES

For privately insured Coloradans : Urban vs. Rural Disparities



HB21-1232

# WHAT DOES THE BILL DO?

## I. STANDARDIZED PLAN : SECTION 10-16-1604 (PAGE 5)

A standardized plan is a **win, win, win** for consumers. A standardized plan will:

1. Lower and streamline out-of-pocket costs, like deductibles and copays
2. Offer more pre-deductible services
3. Consumers can access their coverage without fear of unpredictable costs or high deductibles
4. Makes it easier for consumers to compare plans from different carriers

## 2. PREMIUM REDUCTION GOALS : SECTION 10-16-1305 (PAGE 7)

Individual  
Insurance  
Market

The diagram features a central text block '20% Premium Reduction Goal' in blue. To its left is a large maroon arrow pointing right, containing the text 'Individual Insurance Market'. To its right is a large maroon arrow pointing left, containing the text 'Small Group Market'. The entire diagram is set against a light blue background with a subtle pattern.

**20%**  
Premium  
Reduction  
Goal

Small Group  
Market

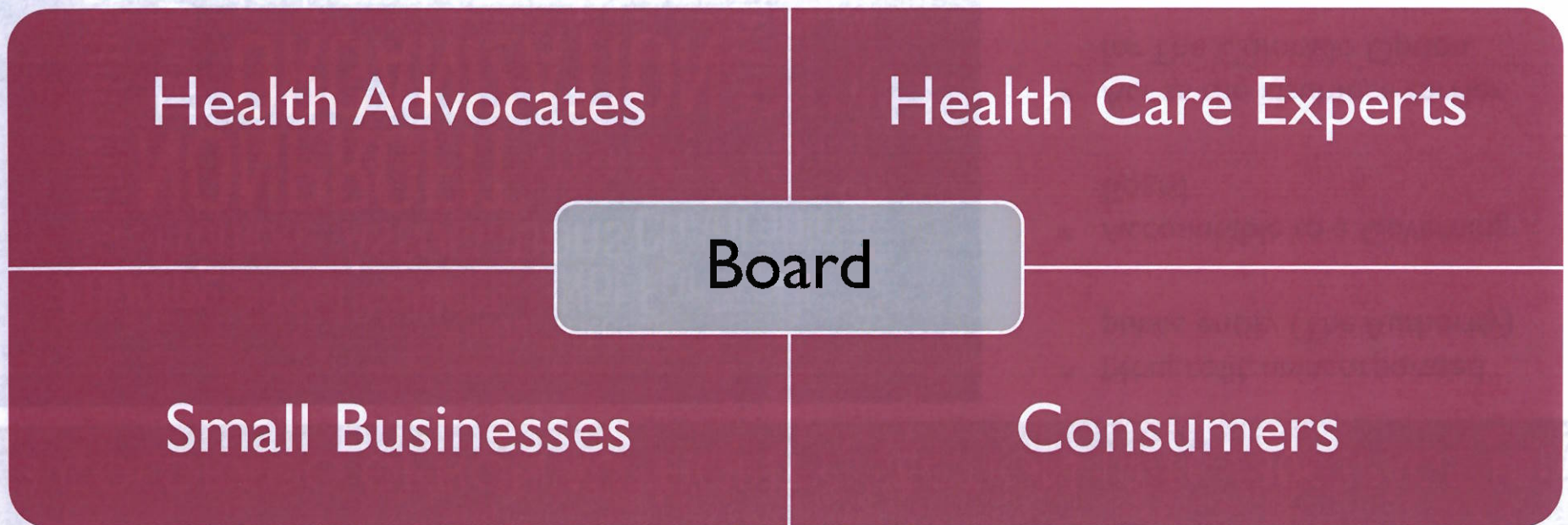
### 3 COLORADO OPTION AUTHORITY : SECTION 10-16-1306 (PAGE 10)

**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION**

Accountability, Donation, Philanthropy, Poverty, Relief, Helping, Benefit, NPONGO, Tax Exempt, Foundations, Tax Deduction, Charity, Advancement, Grant, EDU, Trust, Money, Volunteer, Charitable, Associations, Promote, Social Problems, Funding, Public Interest, Not For Profit, Service

- Nonprofit, unincorporated public entity (The Authority)
- Accountable to a Governing Board
- Act as the insurance carrier for The Colorado Option
- Zero state dollars are invested in The Authority
- Colorado taxpayers are not responsible for any debts

#### 4. THE AUTHORITY GOVERNANCE : SECTION 10-16-1306 (PAGE 11)



## 5. FEE SCHEDULE : SECTION 10-16-1307 (PAGE 14)



6. 1332 WAIVER APPLICATION : SECTION 10-16-1309 (PAGE 17)

Zero  
state  
dollars



Zero  
taxpayer  
liability



Waiver  
funding

## 7. REPEAL : SECTION 10-16-1312 (PAGE 18)





# WHO BENEFITS?

HB21-1232

## HARDWORKING COLORADANS

Regardless of race, income, geography, and immigration status, Coloradans buying their insurance through the individual market will see cheaper premiums, better care, and fewer out-of-pocket costs.

*“Families deserve health insurance options they can access and afford, in good times and bad, because all it takes is an unexpected emergency or illness to turn our world upside down. The Colorado Option will give every family in Colorado, like my family, access to affordable and quality health insurance.”*

**--Kendra Bell, Littleton**

## SMALL BUSINESSES

*“This last year has been extremely devastating to so many, especially to those who own or work for a small business. As a small business owner myself, I’m particularly worried about my employees because I think of them as an extension of my family. Taking care of them and building a strong, healthy workforce is one of my top priorities, but rising healthcare costs and out-of-pocket expenses have made it nearly impossible for us small employers to afford quality healthcare for our employees. Passing this legislation will level the playing field for small employers.”*

**--Jeff Rogoff, Small Business Owner**

Small businesses are struggling in the wake of this pandemic and were desperately seeking relief from health care costs long before our current public health crisis. Small business will see a 20% reduction in premiums and their employees will receive better coverage.

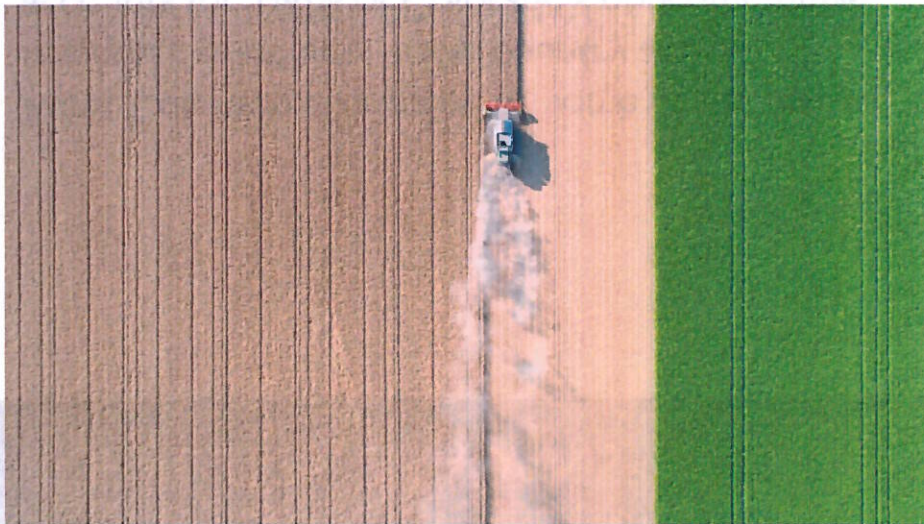
## RURAL COLORADANS

Rural Colorado is crippled by some of the highest insurance premiums in the country and also accounts for 100% of Colorado's noncompetitive insurance markets.

*"I support The Colorado Option because it takes a bold step in the direction of making health care affordable and available. It will reign in the excesses of the corporate hospital systems and insurance companies that profit off the backs of hardworking families like my own. We desperately need better choices and affordability.*

*--Maureen Hinkle, El Jebel*

# CRITICAL ACCESS HOSPITALS



Critical access hospitals serve thousands of Coloradans and are vital to the health of communities across the state. Increasing insurance coverage will guarantee that they will be reimbursed at higher frequencies and reduce the likelihood of providing uncompensated care.

## UNINSURED COLORADANS

Uninsured Coloradans report worse health and site cost as a major barrier to seeking health care that they need.

**18,000**

Previously unenrolled  
Coloradans will gain access to  
health insurance coverage.

- Mannat

## DOCTORS AND HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

*"Having health care means people can see a doctor when they want to, not when they're facing a life-and-death emergency. When people have healthcare, they can manage chronic conditions such as diabetes, asthma, COPD, arthritis and more. And for people of color who experience underlying diseases at higher rates than white people, managing these chronic conditions can save lives."*

***--Yolanda Bogaert, M.D.***



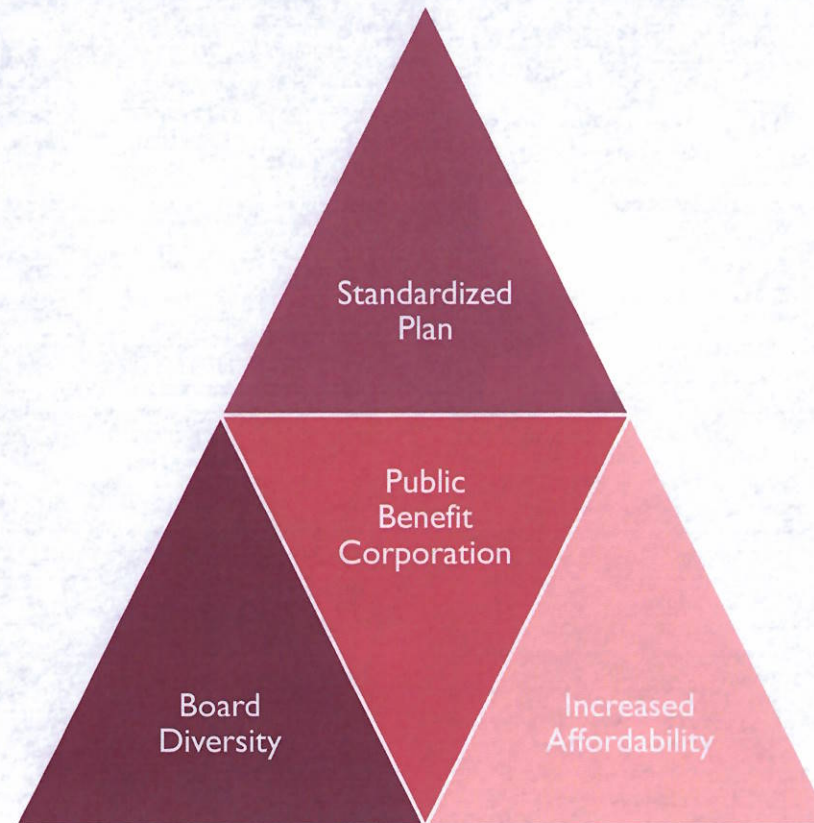


# HEALTH EQUITY

HB21-1232

# HEALTH EQUITY

FOR THE  
FUTURE

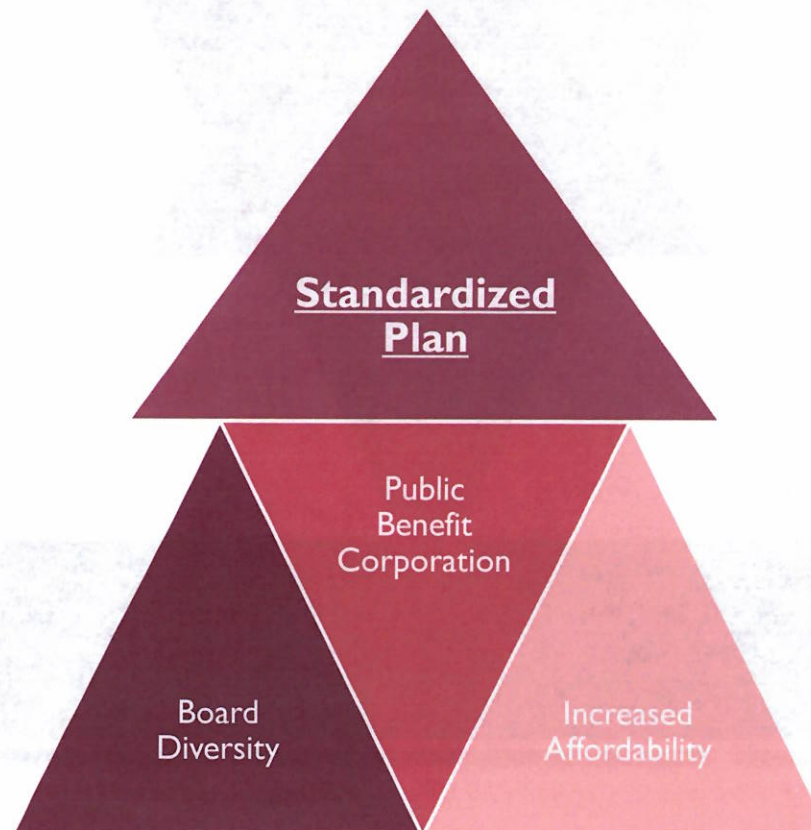


# HEALTH EQUITY

Increased plan value with better coverage

More pre-deductible services associated with health disparities

Reigns in skyrocketing out-of-pocket costs

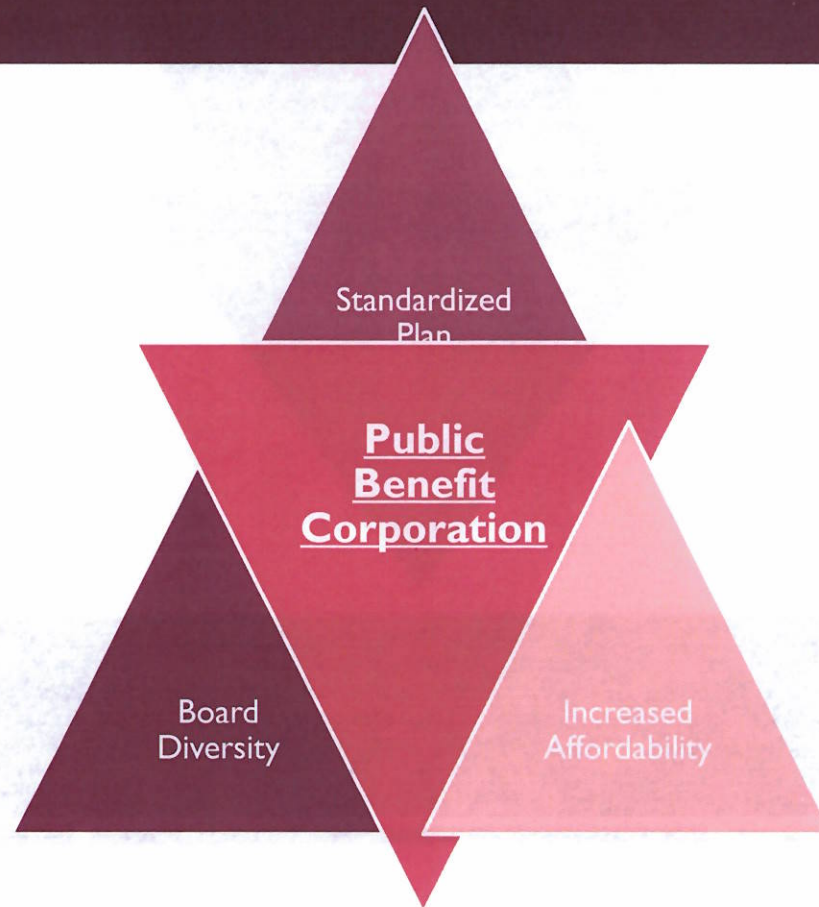


# HEALTH EQUITY

Continues and builds on the success of SB20 - 215

Specifically allows Coloradans without proper documentation to purchase health insurance coverage

Innovative solution to provide subsidies

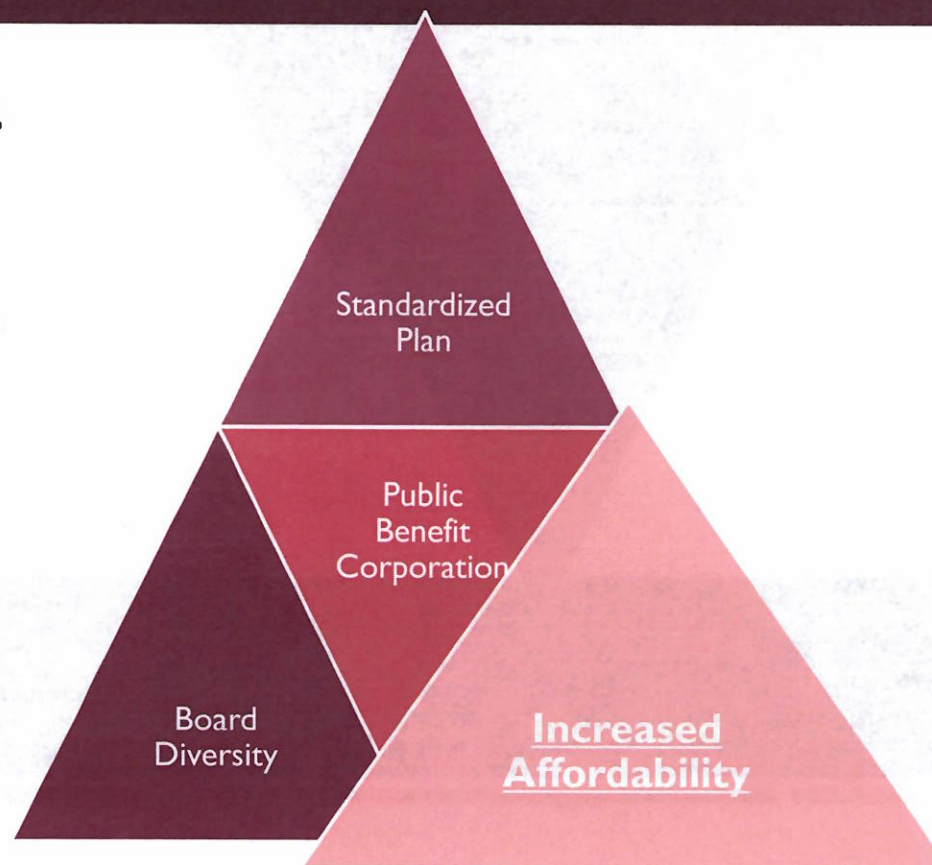


# HEALTH EQUITY

Lowers premiums by 20%  
for individuals and  
employers

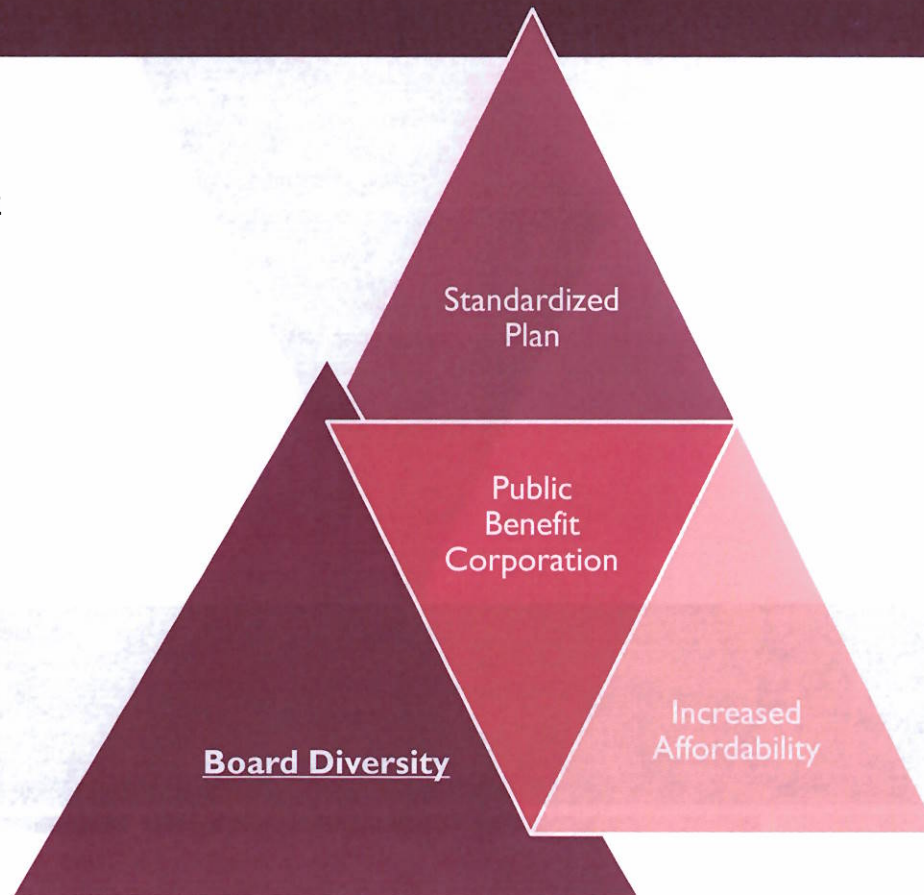
Standardized plan design  
that specifically takes  
ethnicity, race and health  
disparities into account

Increased access to  
preventative care



# HEALTH EQUITY

“To the extent possible, the governor shall appoint board members who reflect the diversity of the state with regard to race, ethnicity, immigration status, income, wealth, ability and geography. In considering geographic diversity, the governor shall attempt to appoint members from both rural and urban areas of the state.” – Page 11





# QUESTIONS?

HB21-1232

