



Counties & Commissioners Acting Together

*Counties and individual commissioners across Colorado working to provide a unified, nonpartisan and independent voice at the statehouse. Collectively, CCAT represents all regions of the state and the diversity of issues facing every corner of Colorado.*

## **SUPPORT HB 18-1205 - HEALTH PLAN COST SUPPORT FUND**

Rep. Roberts & Willett and Sen. Donovan & Crowder

***A Colorado citizen's access to affordable, quality health care should not be determined by their zip code.***

**Summary:** Establishes a state funded pool to assist families and individuals who are unable to find affordable health insurance on the individual market.

**Background:** *Thousands of Coloradans in mountain and plains communities contend with the highest insurance premiums in the nation.* The individual market saw a statewide average increase of 20% and parts of the western slope, eastern plains and the valley saw in some cases a 48% increase.

HB 18-1205 will assist Colorado counties on the front line of combating immense health care premium increases for residents seeking insurance on the individual market. Until a longer-term solution to curb skyrocketing health care costs is identified this measure provides immediate, temporary relief to residents living under this incredible burden

State support is limited in the following ways:

1. Limited to appropriation set by General Assembly – current request is \$6 million
2. Must reside in one of the three highest cost geographic rating areas: |
  - Area 9, West:** Moffat, Routt, Jackson, Rio Blanco, Garfield, Eagle, Grand, Summit, Pitkin, Lake, Delta, Gunnison, Montrose, Ouray, San Miguel, Hinsdale, Dolores, San Juan, Montezuma, San Miguel, La Plata, Archuleta.
  - Area 8, East:** Morgan, Logan, Sedgewick, Phillips, Yuma, Kit Carson, Cheyenne, Washington, Lincoln, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Bent, Prowers, Baca, Las Animas, Huerfano, Costilla, Conejos, Alamosa, Rio Grande, Mineral, Saguache, Custer, Fremont, Chaffee.
  - Area 5:** Grand Junction/Mesa County
3. Limited to residents with income between 400 and 500% of federal poverty level (Federal subsidy support stop at the 400% level)
4. May **not** be eligible for any other health insurance including VA, Medicaid, Medicare or group policies impacted
5. Only for purchase of the lowest price 'Bronze' plan on the state exchange, if the price of that policy exceeded 20% of the family or individual's annual income.
6. Sunsets in two years on August 1, 2020

Submitted Feb. 22, 2018

### **GOVERNING BOARD**

#### *Co-Chairs*

Tim Mauck, Clear Creek  
Rachel Richards, Pitkin

#### *Members*

Deb Gardner, Boulder  
Kathy Chandler-Henry, Eagle  
Rich Cimino, Grand\*  
John Messner, Gunnison  
Ben Tisdell, Ouray\*  
Tim Corrigan, Routt\*  
Hilary Cooper, San Miguel  
Karn Stiegelmeier, Summit

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Steve O'Doriso, Adams\*  
Eva Henry, Adams\*  
Nancy Jackson, Arapahoe\*  
Michael Whiting, Archuleta\*  
Cindy Domenico, Boulder  
Elise Jones, Boulder  
Keith Baker, Chaffee County\*  
Randy Wheelock, Clear Creek  
Jill Ryan, Eagle  
Jeanne McQueeney, Eagle  
Gail Watson, Gilpin  
Ron Engels, Gilpin  
Linda Isenhardt, Gilpin  
Jonathan Houck, Gunnison  
Casey Tighe, Jefferson\*  
Julie Westendorff, La Plata  
Gwen Lachelt, La Plata  
Ben Blake, La Plata  
Steve Child, Pitkin

♦♦♦♦♦

[www.coloradoccat.org](http://www.coloradoccat.org)

For more information on these or other CCAT issues, please contact Aponte & Busam Public Affairs  
Ruth Aponte (303) 907-1980 ♦ Sara Odendahl (303) 506-2348 ♦ Kachina Weaver (303) 883-7076