



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR NANCY WYMAN**

## **Health Care Cabinet**

October 9, 2012  
Meeting Minutes

**Members Present:** Patricia Baker, Vice Chair; Ellen Andrews; Roderick Bremby; Jeannette DeJesús; Bonita Grubbs; Jamesina Henderson; Kevin Lembo; Terrence Macy; Donna Moore; Frances Padilla; Patricia Rehmer; Margaret Smith; Linda St. Peter; Vicki Veltri; Joanne Walsh

**Members Absent:** Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman, Chair; Phil Boyle; Anne Foley; Janice Gruendel; William Handelman; Steven Hanks; Thomas Leonardi; Jeffrey Lucht; Jewel Mullen; John Oraziatti; Robert Tessier

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### **Call to Order**

Special Advisor Jeannette DeJesús opened the meeting at 9:00 am by welcoming all attendees. She said that Lieutenant Governor Wyman was unable to attend the meeting and that Vice Chair Patricia Baker would be arriving shortly.

### **Public Comment**

Reverend Josh Pawelek spoke in support of a state public option for health care. He commended the Business Plan Work Group for their recommendations to the Cabinet.

Mark Kosnoff expressed his belief that high health care costs are driven by private insurance, and advocated for a public option to provide affordable coverage.

Douglas Clark said that he believes that quality health care is a basic human right, and asked the Cabinet to help ensure that all Connecticut residents have access to health care.

### **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the September 13, 2012 regular meeting were approved with no changes.

## Office of Health Reform & Innovation Updates

Special Advisor Jeannette DeJesús provided updates from the Office of Health Reform & Innovation.

- **State Innovation Model Grant:** The State's application for the State Innovation Model (SIM) grant from the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) was submitted on September 24. [The documents which were part of the application are posted on the Office of Health Reform & Innovation website.](#) The application focuses on innovations for the delivery system, payment, and community resources. CMS is expected to notify applicants in early December as to whether they have been awarded the grant. The Cabinet will play a key role in overseeing the planning process for the grant.
- **All-Payer Claims Database:** The Office of Health Reform & Innovation is working with the Exchange to access the \$6.5 million grant for the All-Payer Claims Database, and is working on hiring staff for the APCD. The APCD regulations are being drafted and will be submitted in the near future.
- **Basic Health Plan Work Group:** Pat Baker said that the Basic Health Plan Work Group is continuing its analysis of the Basic Health Plan option for Connecticut, with the help of consultants from the University of Massachusetts and Milliman, which is conducting an actuarial study. The Work Group has decided to proceed with its work in the absence of federal guidance.
- **Consumer Advisory Board:** The Consumer Advisory Board has continued to participate in other health reform meetings. In addition, this group will be sending out a periodic bulletin on consumer issues in health reform. The Consumer Advisory Board is seeking to partner with groups that are conducting forums for consumers on health reform.

## Business Plan Work Group Presentation

Frances Padilla, co-chair of the Business Plan Work Group, spoke about the Work Group's efforts over the past year and presented the Work Group's final recommendations to the Cabinet. She described the composition of the Work Group and the process by which the members arrived at their recommendations.

The Business Plan Work Group made the following recommendations:

- Diversify the Connecticut insurance marketplace to expand access to coverage, enhance the patient care experience, improve health outcomes, emphasize wellness and prevention, and control costs by:
  - Promoting new health plan entrants, including nonprofit, public, and/or private health plans;
  - Coordinating and leveraging the State's purchasing and regulatory power to influence existing health plans to adopt a value health strategy; and
  - Evaluating the efficacy of State convening authority to further this goal.

- Establish qualifying criteria for plans to be offered in Connecticut's Health Insurance Exchange that promote a value health strategy over the long term.
- Address the gaps in access to affordable, quality care that will continue for certain groups, even with the implementation of the ACA.
- Ensure a trusted and effective forum exists for public agencies and the private sector to collaborate on identifying solutions and innovations in health care.

[The Business Plan Work Group's final recommendations are posted on the Office of Health Reform & Innovation website.](#)

Cabinet members had positive feedback on the recommendations and thanked the Work Group members for their efforts.

Ms. Padilla made a motion for the Cabinet to formally accept the Business Plan Work Group's recommendations, and send them to the Governor and the General Assembly. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

#### **Additional Work Group Updates**

- **Delivery System Work Group:** There was no report.
- **Health Technology Work Group:** There was no report.
- **Work Group Co-Chairs:** The Work Group co-chairs met during the summer and will meet again to discuss coordinating recommendations.

#### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00am.