



Memo

To: Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform
From: Health Reform Proposals Committee and Operations Committee
CC: Tracy Johnson, Anita Wesley
Date: June 20, 2007
Re: Recommendations for a consolidated proposal process

Purpose of this Memo

The Health Reform Proposals Committee met twice in June to develop a recommendation to the Commission for a process to develop a consolidated proposal. Last week, the Operations Committee reviewed the recommendations of the Health Reform Proposals Committee. This memo outlines the recommendations of the two committees regarding activities, meetings, decisions, and personnel support needed to develop a consolidated proposal.

Data Sources

The information in this memo is drawn from eight primary sources:

- Discussion during June 1st and June 11th Health Reform Proposals Committee meetings, each attended by 13 Commissioners
- Discussion during the June 13th Operations Committee meeting, attended by 10 Commissioners
- Two interviews with The Lewin Group on May 21st and May 30th
- A detailed workplan submitted by The Lewin Group on May 22nd
- An interview with Catharine Sreckovich, Navigant Consulting, on February 21, 2007. Ms. Sreckovich was the primary staff person who assisted the Illinois Adequate Health Care Task Force with development of their hybrid proposal
- The scope of work of the Technical Advisor's contract
- An interview with Chris Adams on May 29th

Recommended Process

The two Committees recommend the following sequence of meetings, activities and decisions.

The committees did NOT address the issue of how the recommendations of the Task Forces would be incorporated into this timeline, nor did the committees address when the statewide public hearings would occur. The committees recommend that the Communications Committee develop schedules for these two activities that will work within the timelines and activities described below.

In addition, Commissioners are currently being polled about their interest in additional education. Educational sessions that have a high degree of interest will be added to the schedule.

PLEASE NOTE: All dates presented here are draft until a final contract amendment is negotiated with Lewin regarding schedule changes.

June 19th Commission Meeting

- Review one-page summaries of narrow proposals
- Hear presentation of baseline Colorado data by The Lewin Group
- Agree on consolidated proposal process
- Review the Commission's goals and principles
- Decide on minimum agreement needed for consolidated proposal (consensus, 75% support, simple majority) and process for minority opinion
- Agree on five or six key questions Commission will answer in July regarding the consolidated proposal

Committee Work between the July and August Commission Meetings

- Begin work on consolidated proposal
- Lack of available staff may make this difficult

July 17th Commission Meeting

- Hear presentation of modeling results of the four proposals by The Lewin Group
- Discuss interest in and agree to limited number of refinements to the four proposals
- Hear presentation by Len Nichols of The New America Foundation on finding common ground

Personnel support needed at this meeting:

- Facilitator will be needed for discussion on possible refinements to one or more of the four proposals

July 18th Commission Meeting

- Hear from health policy experts on options for answering the key questions, pros and cons of the options, and states' experiences with the questions
- Agree on the answers to the key questions

- Determine if one of the four proposals can be used as a platform for the consolidated proposal

Personnel support needed at this meeting:

- Content experts to identify options for answering the key questions, discuss pros and cons of each options, review other state experience with each option
- Facilitator to help Commission reach agreement on answer to the key questions

Commission Meeting on July 25th

- Final approval of answers to key questions
- Begin development of consolidated proposal: coverage, affordability and portability

Committee Work between the July and August Commission Meetings

- Expand Health Reform Proposals Committee to include all Commissioners and meet weekly between July 18th and August 23rd to answer the Solicitation questions.
- Develop consolidated proposal by answering the 31 questions asked in the “Solicitation for Health Care Reform Proposals” based on the answers to the key questions
- Summarize modeling results, parking lot issues, submitted proposals, and Commissioner ideas relevant to the 31 questions

Possible Schedule for these meetings:	
Last week in July:	Coverage, Affordability and Portability Questions
First week in August:	Benefits and Access Questions
Second week in August:	Quality and Efficiency Questions
Third week in August:	Sustainability Questions
Mid-September:	Consumer Choice, Wellness, Administration Questions

Key questions regarding work between July and August:

- Who chairs this committee?
- Who staffs this process, including drafting the consolidated proposal?
- Should experts be asked to participate in these meetings via telephone?
- Should the Commission ask experts to address the committee in areas where the Commission feels that proposals were weaker, e.g. cost containment?

August 23rd Commission Meeting

- Review draft consolidated proposal developed through committee meetings
- Resolve issues that were not resolved through committee meetings

Commission Work between August and September Commission Meetings

- Conduct five conference calls to specify the consolidated proposal

September 10th Commission Meeting

- Approve consolidated proposal for first round of modeling

October 4th Commission Meeting

- Review first round modeling results (sent to Commissioners October 1st)
- Approve revised specifications

October 25th Commission Meeting

- Review second round modeling results (sent to Commissioners October 22nd)
- Approve revised specifications

November 15th Commission Meeting

- Review final round modeling results (sent to Commissioners on November 12th)