



Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT: Edie Sonn
(720) 201-7307

Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform Selects Evaluation Firm

Denver, Colo., May 7, 2007 – The Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform has selected The Lewin Group to conduct technical assessment of comprehensive health reform proposals.

Thirty-one health reform proposals were submitted to the Commission for consideration. Commissioners will meet later this month to identify three-to-five of those proposals for technical comparative analysis of cost impacts, utilization, design, and other areas, as required by SB 06-208, the legislation which established the Commission.

Three firms submitted proposals for the evaluation contract. The Evaluation Firm Committee of the Commission carefully evaluated those responses, and recommended that the Commission contract with The Lewin Group for this important phase of work. The committee based this recommendation upon Lewin's extensive and directly relevant experience, interdisciplinary modeling approach, ability to meet the Commission's statutory deadlines, accessible communications style, ability to communicate with lay audiences, and best value bid.

The Lewin Group must provide a preliminary report of its findings to the Commission by July 15, and a final report by Sept. 21.

About the Commission

Colorado has 770,000 uninsured residents with nearly 180,000 of them children. Public opinion polls show concern about health care as the top issue for Americans. Coloradans, like most Americans, are anxious for solutions to the rising cost of health care and the growing number of people who cannot afford health insurance.

The Blue Ribbon Commission for Health Care Reform was created by the Colorado Legislature in 2006. The Commission is charged with making recommendations for comprehensive health care reform with the goal of increasing health care coverage and decreasing costs for Colorado residents, with particular emphasis on the issues of the uninsured, underinsured, and those at risk of financial hardship due to the costs of medical care. The Commission is required to make final recommendations for comprehensive health care reform to the General Assembly by November 30, 2007.

For additional information please contact Edie Sonn at 720-201-7307, Anita Wesley at 303-837-8466, ext. 137 or e-mail the Commission at 208commission@coloradofoundation.org.

Follow the work of the Commission at www.colorado.gov/208commission.

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303 E. 17th Avenue, Suite 400, Denver, CO 80203
Phone: 1-888-776-2332 Fax: 303-837-8496

Website: www.colorado.gov/208commission E-mail: 208commission@coloradofoundation.org