COLORADO HEALTHCARE AFFORDABILITY OVERSIGHT BOARD MEETS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DENVER – June 4, 2009 – The Department of Health Care Policy and Financing announced today that the Provider Fee Oversight and Advisory Board will meet for the first time on June 8, 2009. The advisory board is responsible for working with the department to implement the historic Colorado Healthcare Affordability Act (HB09-1293).

The Colorado Healthcare Affordability Act was signed into law by Governor Ritter on April 21, 2009 and will provide over 100,000 uninsured Coloradans with health coverage and reduce uncompensated care and cost-shifting. By partnering with hospitals, an additional $600 million a year will be generated through a provider fee, and draw down $600 million in federal Medicaid matching funds. The combined $1.2 billion will support Medicaid and Child Health Plan *Plus* (CHP+) expansions and be used to improve hospital reimbursement rates provided through Medicaid and the Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICP).

"The 13 member Provider Fee Oversight and Advisory Board will provide the leadership and oversight needed for the responsible implementation of the Colorado Healthcare Affordability Act," states Joan Henneberry, executive director of the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing. "The act will make great strides in Colorado health care reform efforts as pledged in Governor Ritter's Colorado Promise."

Provider Fee Oversight and Advisory Board members

For terms expiring May 15, 2013:
Bruce K. Alexander, chair, Vectra Bank
Dr. Jeremiah A. Bartley, Physician
Lucille Gonzales, Accountant
Madeline L. Roberson, Presbyterian/St. Luke's Medical Center
James E. Shmerling, The Children's Hospital
Christopher W. Underwood, Department of Health Care Policy and Financing

For terms expiring May 15, 2012:
Robert W. Omer, Pioneers Medical Center

Randolph W. Safady, Centura Health
Menda K. Warne, Access and Ability

For terms expiring May 15, 2011:
Joan F. Henneberry, executive director, Department of Health Care Policy and Financing
Thomas N. Henton, Conejos County Hospital
Thomas J. Nash, Colorado Hospital Association
Janet E. Pogar, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield

About the Colorado Department of Health Care Policy and Financing: The Department administers the Medicaid, CICP and Child Health Plan *Plus* programs as well as a variety of other programs for Colorado's low-income, elderly and people with disabilities. The mission of the Department is to improve access to cost-effective, quality health care services for Coloradans. For more information about the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, please visit colorado.gov/hcpf.

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