Massachusetts Health Reform: What We’ve Accomplished So Far

Nancy Turnbull
May 14, 2007

Massachusetts Health Policy Forum
April 2006

Chapter 58 is signed!
May 2006
Connector Board and Executive Director appointed

June 2006
Connector Holds First Board Meeting

Vermont Passes Health Care Reform Legislation
Catamount Health
Let the state coverage competition continue!
MassHealth benefit and eligibility restorations and expansions
- 20,000 kids
- Enrollment caps lifted
- 600,000 adults get back dental care, eyeglasses, dentures and other benefits

Waiver approved by the federal government:
The good news: $1.2 billion is preserved

The bad news: Only two years until it needs to be renewed
(Only one year now)
August 2006

- Commonwealth Care benefit packages approved by Connector board

Coverage update: **24,000** increase in MassHealth membership since July 1st
Commonwealth Care premiums approved by Connector board

Final regulations defining “fair and reasonable” contribution by employers

First meeting of the Quality and Cost Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% FPL</th>
<th>Individual Premium</th>
<th>2-person</th>
<th>Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt;100%</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
<td>$ -</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100-150</td>
<td>$ 18</td>
<td>$ 36</td>
<td>$36-48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150-200</td>
<td>$ 40</td>
<td>$ 80</td>
<td>$ 116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>200-250</td>
<td>$ 70</td>
<td>$ 140</td>
<td>$ 200</td>
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<tr>
<td>250-300</td>
<td>$ 106</td>
<td>$ 212</td>
<td>$ 296</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
October 2006

First phase of Commonwealth Care: <100% FPL

Coverage update: 50,000 increase in MassHealth and Commonwealth Care enrollment since July 1st
November 2006

Deval Patrick
elected Governor

Speaker DiMasi
honored for his leadership on health reform
December 2006

- Small group/nongroup merger report
- Free rider surcharge regulations issued
- First meeting of Advisory Committee to the Quality and Cost Council
- DPH begins infection control program

Coverage update: 75,000 increase in MassHealth and Commonwealth Care enrollment since July 1st
January 2007

- Commonwealth Care starts for 100-300% FPL
  - First Connector meeting chaired by Secretary Kirwan
  - Carriers admonished to “sharpen their pencils” on Commonwealth Choice rates
  - Secretary Bigby chairs her first Quality and Cost Council meeting

- Expanded eligibility for dependents goes into effect

- GBIO issues report: *Mandating Health Care Insurance: What is Truly Affordable for Massachusetts Families?*

Gov. Schwarzenegger files comprehensive health reform plan for California
February 2007

- Business community begins major education campaign for employers

Coverage update: **88,000** increase in MassHealth and Commonwealth Care enrollment since July 1st
March 2007

- Board adopts standards for Minimum Creditable Coverage
- Seal of approval given to Commonwealth Choice plans
Chapter 28 is one year old!

April 2007

Connector approves affordability schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SINGLES</th>
<th>COUPLES</th>
<th>FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0 - $15,315</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$0 - $20,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$15,316 - $20,420</td>
<td>$35</td>
<td>$20,536 - $27,380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,421 - $25,525</td>
<td>$70</td>
<td>$27,381 - $34,225</td>
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<tr>
<td>$25,526 - $30,630</td>
<td>$105</td>
<td>$34,225 - $41,070</td>
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<tr>
<td>$30,631 - $35k</td>
<td>$150</td>
<td>$41,071 - $50k</td>
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<td>$35,001 - $40k</td>
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<tr>
<td>$40,001 - $50k</td>
<td>$300</td>
<td>$60,001 - $80k</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over $50k</td>
<td>Affordable</td>
<td>Over $80k</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Singles, Couples, Families with Children

Health Care for All, Mass. League of Community Health Centers, Massachusetts Hospital Association

implement website:

[www.gethealthcoverage.net](http://www.gethealthcoverage.net)
May 2007
Commonwealth Choice plans hit the market

TUFTS Health Plan
No one does more to keep you healthy.

Neighborhood Health Plan
Getting better together.

Health New England
How Can We Help?

Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare
Progress Since April 2006

122,000 increase in MassHealth and Commonwealth Care membership
Challenges Ahead

- Education, outreach and enrollment
- Building and sustaining public support
- Ensuring access for the newly insured
- Keeping a strong safety net for those who will remain uninsured
- Continued federal support at waiver renewal time
- Moderating health care cost trends
The Nation is Watching Health
Reform in Massachusetts!