

Rep. Donahue - direct enrollment language

Sec. X. DIRECT ENROLLMENT FOR INDIVIDUALS

(a) If the Secretary of Administration determines on or before August 15, 2015 that the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange website will not have sufficient functionality to facilitate the successful enrollment of individuals in Exchange plans during the 2016 open enrollment period which begins on October 1, 2015, the Secretary shall permit individuals to purchase Exchange plans directly from a health insurer under contract with the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange for the duration of the 2016 open enrollment period.

(b) On or before August 1, 2015, the Health Reform Oversight Committee shall provide a recommendation to the Secretary of Administration regarding the advisability of permitting direct enrollment in Exchange plans for individuals during the 2016 open enrollment period.

(c) If the Secretary permits individuals to purchase Exchange plans directly from health insurers pursuant to this section, an individual eligible to purchase a 2015 Exchange plan during a special enrollment period as the result of a qualifying event may purchase a plan directly from a health insurer under contract with the Vermont Health Benefit Exchange as soon as the insurer is able to process direct enrollments.