

Rep. Pearson amendments to House Health Care Committee bill

Sec. X. TASK FORCE ON UNIVERSAL COVERAGE; REPORT

(a) There is created a Task Force on Universal Coverage to develop a proposal for achieving universal health care coverage in Vermont.

(b) The Task Force shall be composed of the following six members:

(1) one current member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) one current member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(3) the Director of Health Care Reform or designee;

(4) the Chair of the Green Mountain Care Board or designee;

(5) the Commissioner of Vermont Health Access or designee; and

(6) a representative from the health insurer with the greatest number of covered lives in Vermont.

(c) The Task Force shall consider how to achieve universal health care coverage in Vermont, including:

(1) how to design and implement a State mandate for all Vermonters to have health care coverage, including:

(A) how Vermonters would prove that they have satisfied the mandate;

(B) suitable penalties to enforce the mandate; and

(C) ways to administer the penalties for failure to satisfy the mandate, such as using the income tax system, wage garnishment, or other means;

(2) the effect of universal coverage on uncompensated care and the resulting impact on health insurance premiums; and

(3) creation of an uncompensated care pool or insurance product to pay for health care services delivered to Vermont residents who continue to lack health care coverage despite the mandate.

(d) On or before December 1, 2015, the Task Force shall submit its proposal for achieving universal coverage to the House Committees on Health Care and on Ways and Means, the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance, and the Health Reform Oversight Committee.

(f) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, legislative members of the Task Force shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406 for no more than six meetings.

Sec. Y. TASK FORCE ON UNIVERSAL COVERAGE AND UNIVERSAL PRIMARY CARE; REPORT

(a) There is created a Task Force on Universal Coverage and Universal Primary Care to develop a proposal for achieving universal health care coverage and providing publicly funded, universal primary care in Vermont.

(b) The Task Force shall be composed of the following eight members:

(1) one current member of the House of Representatives, who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House;

(2) one current member of the Senate, who shall be appointed by the Committee on Committees;

(3) the Director of Health Care Reform or designee;

(4) the Chair of the Green Mountain Care Board or designee;

(5) the Commissioner of Vermont Health Access or designee;

(6) the Director of the Blueprint for Health or designee;

(7) a primary care physician, who shall be appointed by the Vermont Medical Society; and

(8) a representative from the health insurer with the greatest number of covered lives in Vermont.

(c) The Task Force shall consider how to achieve universal health care coverage and provide universal primary care in Vermont, including:

(1) how to design and implement a State mandate for all Vermonters to have health care coverage, including:

(A) how Vermonters would prove that they have satisfied the mandate;

(B) suitable penalties to enforce the mandate; and

(C) ways to administer the penalties for failure to satisfy the mandate, such as using the income tax system, wage garnishment, or other means;

(2) the effect of universal coverage on uncompensated care and the resulting impact on health insurance premiums;

(3) creation of an uncompensated care pool or insurance product to pay for health care services delivered to Vermont residents who continue to lack health care coverage despite the mandate; and

(4) the estimated costs of providing universal, publicly financed primary care to all Vermonters, proposals for tax financing mechanisms, and a determination of any federal waivers needed.

(d) On or before December 1, 2015, the Task Force shall submit its proposals for achieving universal coverage and providing universal primary care to the House Committees on Health Care and on Ways and Means, the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Finance, and the Health Reform Oversight Committee.

(f) For attendance at meetings during adjournment of the General Assembly, legislative members of the Task Force shall be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses pursuant to 2 V.S.A. § 406 for no more than six meetings.