3 Scenarios – Offer of State Employee Health Plan to Legislators

Response to legislative request Michael Fisher, Chief Health Care Advocate

The following three scenarios highlight the potential impact of offering the state employee health plan to legislators and their families at various household sizes and income levels.

Notes:

- This analysis does <u>not</u> include an assessment of impact on legislators or family members on Medicare.
- It is believed that the state employee health plan has a similar actuarial value to the platinum plans offered on Vermont Health Connect (VHC).
- The green highlighted cells in the charts below show the premium that is lower when comparing purchase on VHC v. the state employee health plan.

	Individual	
	VHC	State Plan
Financial Help		
Monthly subsidy / tax credit	\$808/month	-
Cost-sharing reduction	Silver 77	-
Monthly Premium		
Bronze	\$0	\$191.28
Silver	\$29.38	\$191.28
Gold	\$86	\$191.28
Platinum*	\$326.56	\$191.28

Scenario 1: Single person, making \$30k per year

*State employee plan is similar to platinum level plan on VHC.

Conclusion

- For an individual making \$30,000, it is cheaper to buy a bronze, silver, or gold plan through Vermont Health Connect.
- The offer of state insurance would be 7.6% of the individual's income, therefore they could NOT get subsidies on Vermont Health Connect if the state plan was offered to them (family glitch).
- If they had previously purchased the lowest cost gold plan on VHC (\$86/month) then their health care premium costs would more than double under the state employee plan (\$191.28/month).

Scenario 2: Family making \$60k per year

	Family	
	VHC	State Plan
Financial Help		
Monthly subsidy / tax credit	\$1,624	-
Cost-sharing reduction	Silver 77	-
Monthly Premium	Note: Kids on	
	Dr D/ Adults	
	on QHP	
Bronze	\$0	\$382.54**
Silver	50.76	\$382.54**
Gold	164.00	\$382.54**
Platinum*	645.12	\$382.54**

*State employee plan is similar to platinum level plan on VHC.

**Note: Couple's premium for the state employee plan is used because only the adults in the family would need insurance. (Children are eligible for Medicaid at this income level.)

Conclusion

- For a family making \$60,000:
 - The children would be eligible for Dr. Dynasaur / Medicaid
 - The adults would be eligible for a financial subsidy and **it would be cheaper to buy a bronze, silver, or gold plan through Vermont Health Connect.**
- The offer of state insurance (couple's plan) would be 7.7% of their income, therefore they could NOT get subsidies on Vermont Health Connect if the state plan was offered to them (family glitch).

Scenario 3: Couple making \$120k per year

	Couple	
	VHC	State Plan
Financial Help		
Monthly subsidy	\$832	-
/ tax credit		
Cost-sharing	N/A	-
reduction		
Monthly		
Premium		
Bronze	\$449.56	\$382.54
Silver	\$842.76	\$382.54
Gold	\$956.00	\$382.54
Platinum*	\$1,437.12	\$382.54

*State employee plan is similar to platinum level plan on VHC.

Conclusion

- For a couple making \$120,000, it would be cheaper to buy the state employee plan than to buy any plan on Vermont Health Connect (bronze through platinum levels). It would save them a significant amount of money in premiums, ranging from savings of \$67.02/month at the bronze level to \$1,054.58/month at the platinum level.
- The offer of state insurance (couple's plan) would constitute 3.8% of their yearly income.