

Access and Affordability Committee
Wyoming Health Care Commission
November 20, 2006
Casper, WY

Members participating: Rick Shum, Lloyd Wilder, Ken Vines, Barb Rea, Cliff Root, Rex Arney, Darryl Binschadler, Lynn Birleffi, Susan Menghini, Lori Jaspersen, Keith Hageman (Staff)

Guests in attendance: Dan Neal, Tom Gallagher

Jonathan Gruber Contract

Jonathan Gruber, Ph.D. has been contracted to develop a model simulation for recommendations. The contract is currently in the AG's Office and Gruber has seen a draft of the contract and approved it. The Scope, Cost and Timeline for the Jonathan Gruber Ph.D. work product was handed out to the subcommittee (see attached handout). The Subcommittee will be talking with Gruber about fine tuning the model and finding out what other information he may need. Gruber will be using the same uninsured numbers that the WHCC has been using. Dr. Bindschadler expressed concern of quality and quantity of data. This concern will be discussed with Gruber. The subcommittee would like to find out from Gruber what data is insufficient and where additional data is needed. At the December meeting the subcommittee will have a conference call with Gruber.

Wyoming Health Insurance Pool (WHIP)

Rick Schum went over the history and background of the WHIP. A proposal with changes to the WHIP, was handed out to the subcommittee (see attached handout). Commissioner Barb Rea commented that she would like to see an outcome added: (1) covering more people and; (2) premiums will go down. Modeling may be able to help come up with outcomes.

Chairman Arney asked if there was support from the subcommittee to go forward with the WHIP proposal and bring it to the entire Commission for approval under the terms that the proposal could still be adjusted if needed. The vote was unanimous to go forward with the WHIP proposal to the entire Commission.

SCHIP Reauthorization and CHIP 4 Parents Waiver Expansion

The subcommittee approved the SCHIP reauthorization of the funding to continue the SCHIP program and the waiver effort for the expansion of funding to the CHIP 4 Parent program. The vote was unanimous to go forward with the SCHIP reauthorization and the CHIP 4 Parents waiver expansion to the entire Commission.