



Mississippi Health Insurance Exchange Advisory Board

Mississippi Insurance Department

Commissioner Mike Chaney

November 14, 2012

Jackson, Mississippi

Updates & Announcements

**Adoption of
Meeting Minutes
from October 10, 2012;
Employer Participation
Final Recommendations Report;
and Procedures to Elect/Appoint
New Advisory Board Members**

Initial Findings from Advisory Subcommittees on Exchange Market Regulation

Market Participation

- Should carriers participate in both the individual and small group markets?
 - Pros:
 - Potentially increases the quantity of coverage options
 - Encourages market parity
 - Cons:
 - Discourages carrier participation
 - Excludes some carriers who currently participate in only one of the two markets

Market Participation

– Other Subcommittee Findings:

- If carriers choose to participate in small group market, they should be required to participate in the individual market
- Require carriers to participate in the same markets *inside* the Exchange that they do *outside* the Exchange
- Let carriers choose where to participate

Plan Offerings

- Carriers are required under Federal law to offer one plan at the silver and gold levels. Should they be required to offer more?
 - Pros: increases coverage options
 - Cons: may discourage carrier participation, resulting in limited coverage choices

Plan Offerings

– Other Subcommittee Findings:

- Carriers will still offer bronze and platinum plans in response to market demand, even without a mandate
- Carriers should be allowed to offer additional levels at their discretion, but should not be mandated
- The more flexibility given to carriers, the more opportunities they have to operate in the Exchange

Plan Coverage Area

- Should health plans be required to be offered statewide, as opposed to being offered as regional coverage?
 - Pros: Minimizes opportunities for insurers to avoid offering coverage in higher risk regions
 - Cons:
 - May disrupt current market practices
 - May create a barrier to entry

Plan Coverage Area

– Other Subcommittee Findings:

- Would like to hear input from carriers
- Carriers should cover the same areas inside the Exchange that they do outside the Exchange

Standardization

- Standardization of plans
 - Should not be standardized
 - Carriers should be given room for creativity
- Standardization of plan presentation format
 - Comparison view should be “apples to apples”
 - Consumers should be able to see plan exclusions

Other Discussions

- Additional Plan Certification Requirements
 - Ensure provider network is adequate
- Minimum federal requirements could be adopted as initial guidelines, and adjustments made later to address market changes as the Exchange develops

Discussion Themes

- Goal: Flexibility & options in the marketplace
- Minimal Regulations
 - Flexibility for carriers to encourage participation
 - Avoid regulations that may exclude or discourage carriers from participation
 - More carriers mean more coverage options and broadly shared risk
 - Balance the desire for “minimal regulations” with the need for regulations that prevent carriers from “cherry-picking” markets or coverage regions

Exchange Market Regulation Advisory Board Discussion

Other Business & Closing Remarks



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