

Legislative Bill Summary

Bill Number: SB 200 (Introduced)

Title: Concerning a Colorado Health Benefit Exchange

Sponsors: Boyd (Senate)
Stephens (House)

Location: Legislative Council (4/14/2011)

SB 200 authorizes creation of the Colorado Health Benefit Exchange. The bill creates the Board of Directors to lead in the development and administration of the Exchange, and creates the Health Benefit Exchange Implementation Review Committee. SB 200 specifies:

- The Board will consist of nine appointed, voting members, who will serve four year terms. (Four initial appointees will serve two year terms, in order to stagger replacement dates). Along with the appointed, voting members, three ex officio nonvoting members will serve as part of the Board. (The Director of HCPF, Commissioner of Insurance, and Director of Office of Economic Development; or their designees). Board members may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms. The Governor will appoint five voting members. The President of the Senate, Minority Leader of the Senate, Speaker of the House, and Minority Leader of the House will appoint one voting member, each.

The persons making the appointments are directed to “ensure that there is broad representation within the skill sets specified...and [to] consider the geographic, economic, ethnic, and other characteristics of the state in making appointments.”

Five (majority) of the voting members must be individuals who are not directly affiliated with the insurance industry.

Each appointed member of the Board must have “demonstrated expertise” in one or more of the following areas:

- Individual health coverage;
 - Small employer health coverage;
 - Health benefits administration;
 - Health care finance;
 - Administration of a public or private health care delivery system;
 - Provision of health care services;
 - Purchase of health insurance coverage;
 - Health care consumer navigation or assistance;
 - Health care economics or health care actuarial sciences;
 - Information technology; or
 - Starting a small business with 50 or fewer employees.
- The Board shall:
 - Appoint an Executive Director of the Exchange;
 - Create an initial operational and financial plan;
 - Apply for grants, donations, and gifts to fund the planning and pre-implementation phases;
 - Create technical and advisory groups to aid in development of the Exchange;
 - Report, in writing, to the Governor and Legislature by January 15 of each year;

- Review the federal internet portal and other appropriate internet portals as models for the Exchange;
 - Consider the “desirability of structuring the Exchange as one entity that includes two underlying entities to operate in the individual and small employer markets;”
 - Consider the appropriate size of the small employer market, taking current state law into consideration;
 - Develop options and seek waivers, if appropriate, to ensure that the Exchange operates within the best interest of Coloradoans;
- The Board may enter into information sharing agreements with the federal government and other states.
- A ten member legislative committee will be created to review the actions and recommendations of the Board. Members will be appointed by the President of the Senate, Speaker of the House and minority leaders of each house, as follows:
 - President of the Senate – 3 members; 2 of which are sitting members of the Senate HHS, Business, Labor & Technology, or Legislative Audit Committees. One appointee will be a representative of the Senate at large.
 - Speaker of the House – 3 members; 2 of which are sitting members of the Health and Environment, Economic and Business Development, or Legislative Audit Committees. One appointee will be a representative of the House at large.
 - Minority Leader of the Senate – 2 members; one will be a sitting member of HHS Senate HHS, Business, Labor & Technology, or Legislative Audit Committees. One will be a representative of the Senate at large.
 - Minority Leader of the House – 2 members; one will be sitting member of the Health and Environment, Economic and Business Development, or Legislative Audit Committees. One will be a representative of the House at large.
- The Committee will review the financial and operational plans of the Exchange, as well as reviewing grants applied for by the Exchange.
 - The Committee may report up to five bills or other measures to the legislature in any given session.