

## **Health Care System and Health Care Security Board Summary of Meeting on August 5, 2002**

The Health Care System and Health Care Security Board met on Monday, August 5<sup>th</sup> in Room 427, State House. The meeting was called to order by the Chairs, Senator Martin and Representative Volenik. The minutes of the July 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting were accepted.

### **Funding and Budget Update**

As of July 26<sup>th</sup>, the Board has a balance of \$1140.42 remaining in its Legislative account. Based on past expenditures for legislators' expenses and other Board expenses, staff anticipates that the funds in the legislative account will cover expenses for the August 5<sup>th</sup> meeting and one additional meeting. Future expenses will need to be paid from funds raised by the Board.

The Board received its first installment of funds from the Maine Health Access Foundation, Inc. The check for \$66,667.00 was deposited in the Board's account. (The check was received on August 9<sup>th</sup>.)

### **Introduction of Consultants**

Sen. Martin and Rep. Volenik introduced the project team from Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., Deborah Chollet and Glen Mays. Deborah Chollet will serve as the project leader and main contact between Mathematica and the Board. Glen Mays will direct the project's microsimulation modeling activities.

### **Presentation on Maine Single-payer Microsimulation Model**

Dr. Chollet and Dr. Mays led the Board in a general discussion of microsimulation modeling and gave an overview of the model proposed for the feasibility study. They outlined the advantages and disadvantages of microsimulation. Then, they presented the basic architecture of the single-payer model: the population module; the cost module; the economic impact module; and the financing module. Slides of the presentation can be found on the Board's website at [www.state.me.us/legis/opla/hsboard.htm](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla/hsboard.htm).

### **Outstanding Issues**

Several outstanding issues were cited by Mathematica as unresolved and will need resolution by the Board before they can proceed fully with the modeling. These issues include whether or not the plan will require maintenance of effort by public programs and employers; how the plan will be financed; whether or not cost sharing will be required; whether or not long-term care will be included in the plan; will medical care components of auto insurance and liability insurance continue; and "border" coverage of Maine residents who work out-of-state or are insured by out-of-state employers. Because the Board did not have time to fully discuss these issues, the Chairs asked Mathematica to develop a more detailed list of unresolved issues. Staff will e-mail the questions in advance of the next meeting so the Board will have a chance to review these written

questions and respond individually. At the next meeting, the Board will make final decisions on the single-payer plan design (and any alternatives) as a group.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be scheduled after the Board receives written questions from Mathematica relating to elements of the single-payer health plan design. These questions need to be resolved before the consultants can develop the final parameters of the model. Mathematica will take part in the meeting by conference call to offer technical assistance. The Board will have a chance to review the written questions in advance of the meeting. Staff will coordinate with the chairs and Mathematica on the list of questions and scheduling.