



ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

December 19th, 2023
1:00-3:00pm

AGENDA

- 1:00-1:10 – Attendance
- 1:10-1:20 – Update on administrative activities
- 1:20-1:50 – Discussion of annual report draft
- 1:50-2:20 – Discussion of public option report draft
- 2:20-2:45 – Preparing for legislative session
- 2:45-3:00 – Next steps and closing feedback

UPDATE ON ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- Website is live!
 - Visit: www.maine.gov/OAHC
 - Working on adding additional page with Public Hearing comments
- Hiring
 - Posting for Senior Analyst has been provided to HR, awaiting posting
 - Fellowship information now posted online, will be promoted alongside the Senior Analyst role when it is posted



THE OFFICE OF AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

Discussion of Annual Report Draft

ANNUAL REPORT STATUTE

“No later than January 1, 2023 and annually thereafter, the office shall submit a report to the Governor, the legislative oversight committee and the advisory council of its findings in accordance with this chapter. The report must include a summary of comments received at the annual public hearing convened under section 3124.”



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Discussion of Public Option
Report Outline

PUBLIC OPTION REPORT RESOLVE

[Public Law 2021, c. 518, Section 3](#) created a one-time requirement for the office to deliver a report by January 1, 2024 which would “study the effects of policies aimed at improving health care affordability and coverage, including effects on the affordability of premiums and cost-sharing in the individual and small group health insurance markets, and the effects of the policies on enrollment in comprehensive health coverage.” The office was directed to consider the following policy options: Creating a public option benefit plan; creating a Medicaid buy-in program; increasing enrollment in Medicaid and the federal Children’s Health Insurance Program, including by increasing income eligibility levels; providing state-level subsidies to populations that do not qualify for federal subsidies through the Maine Health Insurance Marketplace, established under Title 22, section 5403; and other policies identified by the office.

In 2023, the legislature passed a [resolve](#) directing the office to prioritize the study of publicly-administered public option models and associated policy considerations including the availability of federal waivers. This study is due January 31st, 2024.



THE OFFICE OF AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

Preparing for Legislative Session

PREPARING FOR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

- Prescription Drug Affordability Board purpose and charge
- Facility Fee Task Force
- Other carried over bills or issues Advisory Council members would like to raise?

FEBRUARY MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

- Update and deep-dive on analytics agenda
 - Currently working with MHDO to establish an MOU for OAHC-directed and funded analyses
 - Selected by the Commonwealth Fund to receive technical assistance on reporting, allowing us to tap into experience and lessons learned from other states
 - Also participating in a cross-agency group selected by NASHP to participate in its hospital and health system financial data learning collaborative
- Discussion of “retreat” options

Reminder of 2024 meeting dates (10:00-12:00):

February 6th, April 2nd, June 4th, August 6th, October 1st, December 3rd