



Economic Affairs Interim Committee

60th Montana Legislature

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Economic Affairs Subcommittee on HJR 48

2 to 5 p.m., November 7, 2007

Miles City, Holy Rosary Hospital Conference Rooms (or videoconference in Helena, Billings*)

- 2 p.m. **Welcome, Introductions, Meeting Setup (with videoconferencing)**
Rep. Scott Mendenhall
- 2:05 p.m. **Review of Montana Insurance Issues as they relate to Massachusetts Insurance Reforms** ~ 5 to 10 minutes each
- ***How the Montana Comprehensive Health Association is working and reduces the number of uninsured Montanans***
--Tanya Ask, New West Health Services (from Helena)
 - ***Massachusetts Insurance Plan components possible in Montana***
--Rep. Gary MacLaren, sponsor of HJR 48
 - ***How the cost of premiums is affected by those without insurance and by payment discounts by public insurance programs***
--Mark Burzynski, Blue Cross Blue Shield
 - ***How the cost of mandated services affects premium pricing***
--Frank Cote, America's Health Insurance Plans
 - ***How self-funded insurance and third-party administration works and who primarily is insured under self-funded plans***
--Susan Witte, Allegiance Benefit Plan Management, Inc., and Allegiance Life & Health Insurance Co.
 - ***How the Montana Contractors' Association insurance pool and portability plan works***
--Martell Hilderbrand, Montana Contractors' Association Trust
 - ***How Insure Montana is working to decrease number of uninsured***
--John Morrison, Montana State Auditor, or representative
 - ***State government insurance as related to prospective financing reforms***
--Connie Welsh, administrator of Montana's Health Care and Benefits Division
 - ***Local government insurance picture as related to prospective financing reforms***
--Owen Voigt, administrator of the Montana Association of Counties Health Care Trust
- Questions from subcommittee
Public Comment
- 3:15 p.m. **Roundtable discussion by presenters[†] on:**
- what changes would be needed in Montana law for the legislature to adopt:
 - ▶ a Health Insurance Exchange or other type of portability option
 - ▶ a mandate to have insurance (individual or employer mandate)
 - ▶ guaranteed issue, disallowing pre-existing condition exemptions
 - ▶ fewer mandated services (selective for age groups)
 - ▶ community rating
 - ▶ assessments on self-funded plans to fund uncompensated care
- [†] Angela Huschka from New West Health Services will participate in Tanya Ask's place.
- 4:45 p.m. Public comment
- 5:00 p.m. Adjourn * Helena site is at MHA, 1720 Ninth Ave. Billings site is at St. Vincent Healthcare Mansfield Center.