

Amend CSSB 10 by adding SECTION ____ and renumbering all other SECTIONS accordingly:

SECTION ____ . HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TRANSITION LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE .

(a) The Health and Human Services Transition Legislative Oversight Committee is created to facilitate the reform efforts in Medicaid, the process of addressing the issues of uncompensated hospital care, and the establishment of programs addressing the uninsured;

(b) The committee is composed of 6 members, as follows:

(1) three members of the senate, appointed by the lieutenant governor not later than October 1, 2007;

(2) three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives not later than October 1, 2007.

(c) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission serves as an ex officio member of the committee.

(d) A member of the committee serves at the pleasure of the appointing official.

(e) The lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of representatives shall alternate designating a presiding officer from among their respective appointments. The lieutenant governor shall make the first appointment after the effective date of this Act.

(f) A member of the committee may not receive compensation for serving on the committee but is entitled to reimbursement for travel expenses incurred by the member while conducting the business of the committee as provided by the General Appropriations Act.

(g) The committee shall:

(1) facilitate the design and development of any Medicaid waivers needed to affect reform as directed by this Bill;

(2) facilitate the establishment of common definitions for uncompensated hospital care and any application of those definitions in the determination of policy that affects reimbursement for that care;

(3) facilitate a smooth transition from existing Medicaid payment systems and benefit designs to the new Model of Medicaid enabled by waiver or policy change by HHSC;

(4) meet at the call of the presiding officer;

(5) research, take public testimony, and issue reports on other appropriate issues or specific issues requested by the lieutenant governor, or speaker; and

(i) The committee may request reports and other information from the Health and Human Services Commission.

(j) The committee shall use existing staff of the senate, the house of representatives, and the Texas Legislative Council to assist the committee in performing its duties under this section.

(k) Chapter 551, Government Code, applies to the committee.

(l) The committee shall report to the lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives not later than November 15 of each even-numbered year. The report must include:

(1) identification of significant issues which impede the transition to a more effective Medicaid program;

(2) the measures of effectiveness associated with changes to the Medicaid program;

(3) the impact of Medicaid changes on safety net hospitals and other significant traditional providers;

(4) the impact on the uninsured in Texas.

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