

Legislative Commission on Affordable Health Care Plans for Small Businesses and Families (2007 Iowa Acts, HF 909, §§ 99,127, & 128)

Charge: The Commission is created by legislation to review, analyze, and make recommendations by December 2007 on a broad spectrum of issues relating to the affordability of health care for Iowans. The legislation creates a Health Care Data Research Advisory Council to assist the Commission with research, analysis, and other functions. The legislation appropriates \$500,000 for FY08 to the Legislative Services Agency to support the work of the Commission and Council. To accomplish its charge, the Commission is authorized to procure consultation and other support directly through the Advisory Council or through exclusive contracts with other entities able to perform in the short time frame provided for the study, subject to legislative expenditure guidelines. The Commission is authorized to expend moneys from the appropriation made in Code section 2.12 to pay the June expenses of Commission members and staff to attend the Commission's first meeting and a health care conference in Des Moines sponsored by the University of Iowa's College of Public Health, subject to all expenditure guidelines otherwise applicable to the Commission. Such expenditures may be offset by a reduction in the \$500,000 appropriation for FY08.

Members: 5 Senate/5 House/9 public members, as designated in legislation plus a representative of the Iowa Pharmacy Association, appointed by leaders/5 consumers appointed by Governor/ 3 agency directors or designees (only agency directors or designees are nonvoting members, with final recommendations subject to approval by legislator members per interim committee study guidelines. The appointing authority for legislator members of each caucus may designate a legislator from the same caucus to act as an alternate to attend official meetings of the commission for an absent legislator member.)

Meeting Days: 7 plus 3 public hearings