



Meeting Minutes - Joint Commission on Health Care
Health Insurance Affordability in the Individual Market Workgroup Meeting
August 18, 2021 – 2:00 p.m. Virtual Meeting

Workgroup Members Present

Senator Barbara Favola (Chair)
Senator Siobhan Dunnavant
Senator John S. Edwards
Senator David Suetterlein
Delegate Ibraheem Samirah

Non-Workgroup Members Present

Delegate Dawn Adams
Delegate Mark Sickles
Delegate Patrick Hope
Senator Ghazala Hashmi

Workgroup Not Members Present

Delegate C.E. (Cliff) Hayes, Jr.

Call to order and opening remarks – Senator Favola

Executive Director Jeff Lunardi read the policy on legislative meetings conducted by electronic means, under Chapter 1 of the 2021 Special Session II.

Stephen Weiss, Senior Health Policy Analyst provided a summary of staff research for the study on affordability in the individual health insurance market. He summarized the research on other state programs, research to identify the greatest affordability challenges in Virginia, and listed the potential scenarios that are being modeled by the Urban Institute’s Health Policy Simulation Model. Members asked several follow-up questions about specific scenarios in other states.

Jessica Banthin, Senior Fellow at the Urban Institute provided an overview of how the Health Policy Simulation Model works. She described the inputs, outputs, and how it has been used to estimate the impacts of policy changes in other states and at the federal level.

Members concluded the meeting with questions about potential strategies.

Senator Favola adjourned the meeting.