



## Meeting Minutes - Joint Commission on Health Care

November 16, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.

House Room 3 - Capitol Building

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### Members Present

Delegate Dawn Adams  
Delegate C. Matthew Fariss  
Delegate C.E. (Cliff) Hayes, Jr.(Virtual)  
Delegate M. Keith Hodges  
Delegate Patrick Hope  
Delegate Robert Orrock  
Delegate Sam Rasoul (Virtual)  
Delegate Ibraheem Samirah  
Delegate Mark Sickles

Senator George Barker  
Senator Siobhan Dunnavant  
Senator John S. Edwards (virtual)  
Senator Barbara Favola  
Senator Ghazala Hashmi  
Senator Jen Kiggans (virtual)  
Senator Jennifer McClellan(virtual)  
Senator David Suetterlein

Secretary Walker Harris

### Members Absent

Delegate Emily Brewer

### Staff Present

Jeff Lunardi  
Kyu Kang  
Estella Obi-Tabot  
Stephen Weiss  
Agnes Dymora

Call to order and welcoming comments – Vice Chairman Barker

Executive Director, Jeff Lunardi, reviewed the agenda and introduced Stephen Weiss to provide the first briefing.

Stephen Weiss, Senior Health Policy Analyst, presented the findings from the Health Insurance Affordability in the Individual Market study JCHC contracted a portion of the work for the study out to the Urban Institute to model estimated cost and health insurance coverage impacts for a variety of proposals that are aimed at expanding enrollment, reducing the costs of individual health coverage and the number of uninsured, and making the marketplace more affordable for those already purchasing individual coverage. The study found that a robust individual marketplace with more healthy individuals than unhealthy individuals was critical to keeping health coverage affordable for all consumers within the individual marketplace. The seven policy options presented to the JCHC are designed to increase enrollment, decrease barriers to coverage, and make coverage more affordable. Of note, the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) passed by Congress in 2021 is having an oversized impact on enrollment and the cost of coverage in Virginia for 2021 and 2022. According to the HIPSM model, 108,000 more Virginians will have coverage in the

individual health insurance market by 2023 if the enhanced premium subsidies in ARPA are extended. The enhanced subsidies are scheduled to expire in 2023 and the model anticipates that the overwhelming majority of those newly covered will leave the market due to the costs of coverage. Senator Favola announced that there will be a meeting of the Affordability Workgroup on Monday, November 29th to discuss the policy options presented and take public comment on the report. The meeting will be held virtually.

Dr. David Marcozzi, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine at the University of Maryland School of Medicine discussed statistics for Emergency Department utilization in the United States, highlighted the takeaways from his study of Emergency Departments, and made suggestions for potential policy options for Members' consideration.

Dr. Mark Miller, Executive Vice President of Health Care, Arnold Ventures, discussed the increase in spending for health care in Virginia and the impact that had on the consumers. He also discussed concerns found in Medicare with billing and coding for Emergency Department visits and possible solutions to mitigate the problem.

Executive Director, Jeff Lunardi, presented an overview of the potential 2022 studies. He advised the Members on next steps for narrowing down the studies and voting for the final options.

All presentations and a link to the archive of the video can be found on our website:  
<http://jchc.virginia.gov/meetings.asp>