

**Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Nursing Home Rate Review Workgroup Meeting
October 19, 2010**

401 South Clinton, Chicago, Illinois and 201 S. Grand Avenue East, Springfield

Members Present

Julie Hamos, Chair, Director, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Pat Comstock, Health Care Council of Illinois
Teresa Garate, Department of Public Health
Arnie Kanter, Barton Health Care
Dave Lowitzski, Service Employees International Union
Wendy Meltzer, Illinois Citizens for Better Care
Phyllis Mitzen, Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, MFP Client Advocate
Kirk Riva, Life Services Network of Illinois

Members Absent

Secretary, Department of Human Services
Dave Vinkler, AARP

Governor's Office

Jessica Bruskin
Michael Gelder
Amy Lulich

General Assembly Members/Staff

Douglas Adams, House Republican Staff
Melissa Black, Senate Democrat Staff
J'Nell Blanco, House Democrat Staff
Kurt DeWeese, House Democrat Staff
Samantha Olds, House Democrat Staff
Kim Schultz, Senate Democrat Staff
John Slocum, House Republican Staff
Heather Steans, State Senate, 7th District

State Agency Staff

William Bell, Department of Public Health
Krista Butler, Guardianship and Advocacy Commission
Kelly Cunningham, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Theresa Eagleson, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Barb Ginder, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Rudi Hancock, Department of Financial and Professional Regulation
Elizabeth LaRocca, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Jean Summerfield, Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Dawn Wells, Department of Healthcare and Family Services

Providers, Provider Associations, Advocates and Interested Parties

Stephanie Buck, Illinois Pioneer Coalition
Susan Gardiner, Illinois Council on Long Term Care

Donna Ginther, Health Care Council of Illinois
Sharon Goode, Life Services Network of Illinois
Monica Hammer, Alderman Mary Ann Smith's Office, Chicago
Mark Mroz, MADO Health Care
Tim O'Brien, Fletcher, O'Brien, Kasper and Nottage
Kristen Pavle, Health and Medicine Policy Research Group
Andrea Perry, Royal Management Corporation/Lexington Health Care
Violet Radwill
Steven Serikaku, Community Renewal Society
Terry Steczo, County Nursing Homes
Kevin Stoneking, The Clayberg Nursing Home
Kevin Taylor, Health Care Council of Illinois
Matt Werner, Matt Werner Consulting for Life Services Network
Tom Wilson, Access Living
Greg Will, Service Employees International Union

1. Opening Remarks/Review and Approval of October 6, 2010 Minutes

The sixth meeting of the Nursing Home Rate Review Workgroup was called to order at 10:10am by Workgroup Chair, Julie Hamos. Minutes from the October 6, 2010 workgroup meeting were disseminated and approved.

2. Discussion of Options

Chair Hamos disseminated a draft discussion document, entitled "Policy options for consideration by Nursing Home Rate Review Work Group", and invited workgroup members and meeting attendees to offer comments on each of the options presented, as well as legislative strategy needed to secure appropriate authorization to proceed with the increased tax. Life Services Network of Illinois (LSNI) representatives also distributed a document explaining their position on the proposed increase in the nursing facility provider tax, and the reason for their historical opposition. They also offered several suggestions for increased revenues for use in funding staffing mandates and other report requirements which might be considered in lieu of an increased tax.

Potential uses for increased tax proceeds were discussed and debated, with various workgroup members sharing their perspective. Additionally, various workgroup members shared their views regarding the staffing ratios required by SB 326 (P.A. 96-1372) and the relationship to the proposed increase in the bed tax. Workgroup members agreed to continue discussions on this issue while the Department modeled some additional tax scenarios and proposals.

3. Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2010 from 12:00 pm – 2:00pm at the Bilandic Building in Chicago, and the Bloom Building in Springfield.