Legislative Briefing

OHA Health Policy Action

Your guide to proposed health legislation, what we think about it, and what we're doing about it.

March 2013

H.B. No. 6517; AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM REVIEW AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE

What is this bill about?

H.B. 6517 will implement the recommendations of the Legislative Program Review and Investigations Committee concerning the Insurance Department. By identifying trends indicating non-compliance of insurers with applicable law, it may be identified and addressed early and appropriate remedies imposed. Also it will improve CID's ability to carry out its mission in a more equitable, inclusive and comprehensive manner. In addition, the recommendation that CID explore with HHS opportunities to decrease the complexity for consumers filing external appeals represents a simple, common sense measure.

What are the implications of this bill for healthcare consumer advocacy?

When consumers access the CID website, they can easily and efficiently receive practical notice of all resources available to them including information to OHA.

Talking Points

1. OHA is aware of this proposed legislation and submitted written public testimony **in support** of this bill.
2. This legislation will enable CID to carry out its mission more effectively while identifying non-complying insurers and decrease consumer work.
3. OHA supports this legislation based on the principles of access to quality healthcare, evidence-based improvements to our healthcare system, and consumer maximization of value for their health insurance premiums.

Please refer all media, agency, and legislator inquiries to Vicki Veltri

OHA represents the collective voice of 3.5 million healthcare consumers. For our state to be competitive, our people must be healthy. Our mission is to • assure managed care consumers have access to medically necessary healthcare • educate consumers about their rights and responsibilities under health insurance plans • inform legislators of problems consumers face in accessing care and propose solutions to those problems.