



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 318

February Session, 2018

Substitute House Bill No. 5385

House of Representatives, April 9, 2018

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through REP. SCANLON of the 98th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM RATE INCREASES AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO MITIGATE SUCH INCREASES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a working
2 group to study health insurance premium rate increases in this state
3 and develop recommendations to mitigate such increases. Such study
4 and recommendations shall include, but need not be limited to, means
5 available to: (1) Respond to any pending or enacted legislation or order
6 that amends, modifies or repeals the Patient Protection and Affordable
7 Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended from time to time, or any portion
8 thereof; (2) encourage competition among health carriers in this state;
9 (3) foster the development of new and more affordable health
10 insurance policies for sale in this state; (4) reduce the financial impact
11 of health benefits mandated by the laws of this state; and (5) address
12 the drivers affecting the cost of health insurance policies and
13 prescription drugs.

14 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members:

15 (1) The chairpersons and ranking members of the joint standing
16 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
17 relating to insurance;

18 (2) One appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives;

19 (3) One appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate;

20 (4) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
21 Representatives;

22 (5) One appointed by the Senate Republican president pro tempore;

23 (6) The Insurance Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;

24 (7) One representative of the Connecticut Association of Health
25 Plans, appointed by the president of the association;

26 (8) One representative of the Pharmaceutical Research and
27 Manufacturers of America, appointed by its president and chief
28 executive officer;

29 (9) One representative of the Connecticut Business and Industry
30 Association, appointed by the president of the association, who shall
31 be the officer, manager or director of an employer doing business in
32 this state that sponsors a group health insurance policy for its active
33 employees; and

34 (10) Two individuals appointed by the Healthcare Advocate, one of
35 whom shall be insured under an individual health insurance policy
36 and one of whom shall be insured under a group health insurance
37 policy.

38 (c) Any member of the working group appointed under
39 subdivisions (1) to (5), inclusive, of subsection (b) of this section may
40 be a member of the General Assembly.

41 (d) All appointments to the working group shall be made not later
42 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
43 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

44 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president
45 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the working
46 group from among the members of the working group. Such
47 chairpersons shall schedule the first meeting of the working group,
48 which shall be held not later than sixty days after the effective date of
49 this section.

50 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
51 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance
52 shall serve as administrative staff of the working group.

53 (g) Not later than January 1, 2019, the working group shall submit a
54 report on its recommendations to the joint standing committee of the
55 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance,
56 in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
57 statutes. The working group shall terminate on the date it submits such
58 report or January 1, 2019, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

INS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

The bill establishes a working group to study health insurance premium rate increases in this state and develop recommendations to mitigate such increases. The working group shall submit its findings and recommendations to the insurance committee by January 1, 2019.

Section 2-15b of the CGS prohibits transportation allowances for those members traveling to or from any meeting of such task force; hence there is no fiscal impact.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis

sHB 5385

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A WORKING GROUP TO STUDY HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM RATE INCREASES AND DEVELOP RECOMMENDATIONS TO MITIGATE SUCH INCREASES.

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Research does not analyze Special Acts.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 21 Nay 0 (03/20/2018)