



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5385**

February Session, 2018



**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.*