

**SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH PLAN TASK
FORCE**

2007 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steven R. Mascaro

Senate Sponsor: _____

Cosponsor: Phil Riesen

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill creates the Small Business Health Plan Task Force.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ creates the Small Business Health Plan Task Force;
- ▶ provides for membership of the task force and compensation for members;
- ▶ specifies duties and responsibilities of the task force; and
- ▶ specifies issues that the task force will review.

Monies Appropriated in this Bill:

This bill appropriates:

- ▶ \$9,280 to the Senate;
- ▶ \$18,560 to the House of Representatives; and
- ▶ \$180,000 to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel to pay for

certain studies.

Other Special Clauses:

This bill is repealed on November 30, 2007.

Uncodified Material Affected:

ENACTS UNCODIFIED MATERIAL



Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

**Section 1. Small Business Health Plan Task Force -- Creation -- Membership --
Interim rules followed -- Compensation -- Staff.**

(1) There is created the Small Business Health Plan Task Force consisting of the
following 12 members:

(a) four members of the Senate appointed by the president of the Senate, no more than
three of whom may be from the same political party; and

(b) eight members of the House of Representatives appointed by the speaker of the
House of Representatives, no more than six of whom may be from the same political party.

(2) (a) The president of the Senate shall designate a member of the Senate appointed
under Subsection (1)(a) as a cochair of the task force.

(b) The speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member of the House
of Representatives appointed under Subsection (1)(b) as a cochair of the task force.

(3) In conducting its business, the task force shall comply with the rules of legislative
interim committees.

(4) Salaries and expenses of the members of the task force shall be paid in accordance
with Section 36-2-2 and Legislative Joint Rule 15.03.

(5) The Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel shall provide staff support
to the task force.

Section 2. Duties -- Studies -- Interim report.

(1) The task force shall review and make recommendations on the following issues:

(a) identifying health insurance programs for small businesses that:

(i) are the most cost effective on a per member per month basis;

(ii) share actuarial risk broadly across the full universe of businesses that participate in
a given plan; and

(iii) are of similar quality and scope as those most commonly sold in public and private
HMO markets;

(b) methods to insure small businesses, especially underserved populations; and

(c) other small business health plan issues of interest to the task force.

(2) In performing its duties described in Subsection (1), the task force shall consult

with:

- (a) small business employers and employees;
- (b) the insurance industry;
- (c) the insurance commissioner;
- (d) the executive director of the Department of Health;
- (e) the Governor's Office of Economic Development;
- (f) the executive director of the Public Employees' Benefit and Insurance Program;
- (g) the Utah Children's Health Insurance Program;
- (h) the Utah Comprehensive Health Insurance Pool; H→ [and]

(i) associations that

represent health insurers;

(j) associations that represent health underwriters; and

~~(i)~~ (k) ~~H~~ other people or entities with expertise related to small business health plans.

(3) A final report, including any proposed legislation shall be presented to the Business and Labor Interim Committee before November 30, 2007.

Section 3. **Appropriation.**

There is appropriated from the General Fund for fiscal year 2006-07 only:

(1) \$9,280 to the Senate to pay for the compensation and expenses of senators on the task force;

(2) \$18,560 to the House of Representatives to pay for the compensation and expenses of representatives on the task force; and

(3) \$180,000 to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel for the following studies under the direction and approval of the Small Business Health Plan Task Force: (a) an actuarial modeling of small business employer and employee participation in ~~H~~ [the Public Employee Health Plan (PEHP) and similar private plans] a cost effective small business health insurance plan similar to those found in other private and public sector plans ~~H~~ ; and

(b) a survey of small business owners concerning their ability and willingness to support different health premium and benefit package scenarios.

Section 4. **Repeal date.**

This bill is repealed on November 30, 2007.

Legislative Review Note

as of 1-26-07 2:01 PM

H.B. 152 - Small Business Health Plan Task Force**Fiscal Note**

2007 General Session

State of Utah

State Impact

Enactment of this bill will appropriate \$207,840 in one-time General Funds in FY 2007 for the new task force created by this bill and for required studies. Funds will be distributed as follows: \$9,280 to the Senate, \$18,560 to the House of Representatives, and \$180,000 to the Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel.

	<u>FY 2007</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2008</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2009</u> <u>Approp.</u>	<u>FY 2007</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY 2008</u> <u>Revenue</u>	<u>FY 2009</u> <u>Revenue</u>
General Fund, One-Time	\$207,840	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$207,840	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Individual, Business and/or Local Impact

Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for individuals, businesses, or local governments.