



Rhode Island Business Group on Health

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2010 Legislative and Public Policy Agenda

The Rhode Island Business Group on Health (RIBGH) has become an actively influential business community voice in the shaping of health care policy, regulation, and legislation that promotes a better health care delivery system and advances disease prevention and better overall health for all Rhode Islanders. In 2010, RIBGH will focus on efforts to improve accessibility, affordability and quality of health care in Rhode Island while ensuring that health care reform efforts be achieved in a way that not only meets the needs of Rhode Islanders but also supports economic recovery and growth in Rhode Island.

Priorities for 2010:

Shaping Health Care Policy: RIBGH will work collaboratively with other businesses and associations in RI to leverage our ability to have a greater impact on health care reform and influence government in shaping health care policy. RIBGH will be a partner in the development of initiatives to build an integrated system approach, where reimbursement and delivery system reform are coordinated to build a more patient-centered health care system that achieves high value and quality outcomes. RIBGH will be an active participant in initiatives undertaken by Rhode Island's Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner that focus on improving health care accessibility, affordability and quality. RIBGH will also monitor and comment from the business perspective on all responsible universal health care proposals.

Health Information Technology: RIBGH believes that greater health care transparency and provider use of health information technology will support a more effective and efficient health care system. RIBGH will support the development and financial stability of a statewide information network (**currentcare**) and ability for access to electronic medical records, which can improve patient outcomes and coordination of care while reducing inefficiencies in the health care system. RIBGH supports policies that promote both public and private investments in the resources, standards, and technology needed to create an effective statewide information network.

Coordinated Health Care Planning: RIBGH will continue to drive efforts that support coordinated health care planning and the involvement of all stakeholders. RIBGH will provide a business community voice in any health care initiatives, like the Lifespan/Care New England system merger, where coordinated planning is needed to ensure alignment of resource allocation with the health care system needs in Rhode Island. RIBGH will continue to support a health care delivery model that has built-in incentives to balance both quality and cost efficiencies.