

ACA WG
2/14/2018
Notes

Roll Call

Present

Leighton Ku
Jodi Kwarziany
Robert Metz
Colette Chichester
Robert Metz
Laurie Kuiper
Robert Axelrod
Kristen Hathaway
Justin Palmer
Liam Steadman
Margaret Singleton
Jenny Sullivan
Katie Nicol
Maria Gomez
Dave Chandra

Absent

Carl Chapman
Donna Alcorn
Peter Rankin

Welcome and opening remarks:

Leighton Ku: This is the eighth meeting of the working group. The work we're doing here is important and we're really at the forefront of the nation with a lot of other states looking at what we're doing. Purvee will walk us through the recommendation before we take a vote.

Purvee Kempf: The document we are looking at is called ACA working group recommendation, DC individual responsibility requirement for consideration on Feb 14, 2018. We got some grammatical, technical changes that were non-substantive. Let's walk through the drafted recommendation.

First paragraph – no changes

Second paragraph --

The ACA working group intends that DC taxpayer pay no more and in some cases less

Third paragraph – no changes

Coverage changes – no changes

Exemption changes –
Changed mandate to responsibility payment

Debbie Curtis: need to make sure we change would to could re: AHP proposed rule and parallel that with the first paragraph.

Purvee Kempf: I'd like to take a moment to turn to the chart that we sent out prior to the meeting. Was put together to help people understand what the federal individual responsibility requirement has in it and comparatively what we specifically mentioned as a change.

We did not go through every single piece to have a full discussion, just the components that were of interest to working group members.

DC Healthcare Alliance will be exempt from paying the penalty whereas the ICP would meet the coverage requirements.

Kris Hathaway (AHIP): Just for future knowledge, in case this document gets shared with others. Uncheck healthcare sharing ministries. They're not treated as MEC but were pulled back in under the individual mandate.

Purvee Kempf: Not sure how to clarify that.

Kris Hathaway: Healthcare sharing ministries are not treated as MEC but they are exempt from the federal individual mandate.

Debbie Curtis: Are you saying that healthcare sharing ministries under exemptions, instead of having it under MEC that meets the individual mandate?

Kris Hathaway: yes, I think that would make that technically correct.

Jason Levitis: Kris is exactly right. Technically it is an exemption and not MEC.

Jenny Sullivan: Outreach and education – talking about things that pertain to the mandate and for DC's purposes we want to connect people to coverage I think the WG recommendation summary is a little narrow. More broadly we want people to understand what is happening with federal law and how the District is going to step up to fill that void.

Purvee Kempf: I'll pull a piece of that into the chart.

Leighton Ku: I think this is useful to others as it goes through the specifics, so hopefully we can make this sufficiently accessible to non policy wonks.

Alex Alonso: In the right hand column, it said we would be substituting the District average bronze plan as a cap. But we would use the lowest cost bronze plan to calculate the affordability

exemption. The feds just use the lowest cost bronze plan in the district so all we need to say under that exemption is “same”

Leighton Ku: Will we know the lowest and average bronze plan cost in sufficient time so that OTR needs that published and printed in tax forms and for tax preparers to use?

Alex Alonso: We know the lowest cost bronze prior to the tax year even starting. Average bronze plan would be known sometime in the mid-2019 tax-year, but you’re not publishing those forms until late in the tax year because that filing does not start until 2020.

Leighton Ku: If there are two people on the roster from one organization, you only get one vote. For those that could not make it to this meeting, they were able to email us in advance. Debbie will let us know who those people are.

Debbie Curtis: Here are the people who emailed voted in advance:

Dania Palanker – yes

Patricia Quinn – yes

Carolynn Rudd – yes

Leighton Ku: I’ll now call out names for a vote -
VOTE

Leighton Ku – yes

Jodi Kwarziany – yes

Colette Chichester – yes

Robert Axelrod – yes

Dave Chandra – yes

Kristen Hathaway – yes

Dania Palanker – yes

Justin Palmer – yes

Margaret Singleton – yes

Jenny Sullivan – yes

Patricia Quinn – yes

Katie Nicol – yes

Carolyn Rudd – yes

Maria Gomez – yes

Leighton Ku: For those that voted we have a consensus, it is unanimous.

Maria Gomez: What is the next thing in process?

Leighton Ku: HBX staff are busily working to compile the working group report. Report will address how we reached this recommendation and all the discussion leading up to it. We want to have this report available very soon. Next technical step is that we will go to the HBX executive

board meeting on Feb 21 at 5:30 pm at HBX. Everyone is invited to join either in person or by phone.

Debbie Curtis: We will let you all know what next steps we need to take – and will likely need your help.

Leighton Ku: I also want to thank all the members from DC agencies that have been participating and giving advice and hearing this discussion. We want to make sure we can let people know we were getting broad interest from other stakeholders in DC. It's been helpful to know that there's a continuing interest in DC to protect our residents. We are the first in the country to make this assertive statement to fill the void when the federal government backed out of the individual mandate. Thanks everyone.

Adjourn.