

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



Executive Order 1347

WHEREAS, some health insurance companies providing coverage in the state have engaged in practices which have narrowed health care networks; and

WHEREAS, the narrowing of networks has led to limitations on access to needed medical care and could create an environment that discourages health care providers from providing care in Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, the adequacy of networks should be examined to ensure that insureds have access to the best healthcare at the most reasonable prices.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Phil Bryant, by the authority vested in me as Governor by the Constitution and laws of the State of Mississippi, do hereby create a Task Force to Study the Impact of Network Adequacy to undertake a comprehensive review of the state's health care system, with emphasis on health care network adequacy as it pertains to enhanced access to health care for Mississippi patients. The task force shall investigate current issues in health care delivery related to network deficiencies and issues surrounding business operations of insurance networks in the State of Mississippi. The task force shall be comprised of fifteen (15) members, as follows:

(a) The Chairpersons of the Insurance Committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives;

(b) The Commissioner of Insurance or his designee;

(c) A physician, appointed by the Mississippi State Medical Association;

(d) A physician, appointed by the Mississippi Psychiatric Association;

(e) A dentist, appointed by the Mississippi Dental Association;

(f) A physician, appointed by the Mississippi Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics;

(g) A representative from the Mississippi Ambulatory Surgery Center Association;

(h) A representative from the Mississippi Hospital Association;

(i) A family practice physician, appointed by the Mississippi State Medical Association;

(j) A physician, appointed by the Mississippi Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons;

(k) An optometrist, appointed by the Mississippi Optometrist Association;

(l) A chiropractor, appointed by the Mississippi Chiropractic Association;

(m) A nurse, appointed by the Mississippi Nurses' Association; and

(n) A representative from the Medical Group Management Association of Mississippi.

The appointed members of the task force must be appointed within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this Executive Order. The members shall be a part of the task force for the life of the task force. Any vacancy in the task force shall not affect its powers but shall be filled in

the same manner prescribed above. The task force shall hold its first meeting within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Executive Order, on the call of the Governor at a place designated by him. At the first meeting, the task force shall elect from among its membership a chairperson and other officers, if any, determined to be necessary. A majority of the membership of the task force shall constitute a quorum and shall meet at the call of the chairperson, or upon an affirmative vote of a majority of the task force. All members should be notified in writing of all meetings at least five (5) days before the date on which a meeting of the task force is scheduled.

The task force shall study and make recommendations for improving health care network adequacy in Mississippi. In making those recommendations, the task force shall:

(a) Undertake a comprehensive review of all the state's health insurance networks, including any business dealings aimed at narrowing current networks and all other related issues; and

(b) Make findings regarding such review and recommendations for changes in oversight, policies, practices and laws designed to prevent, deter and reduce the narrowing of health care networks.

The Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration shall provide appropriate staff support to assist the task force in carrying out its duties. In addition, the task force may consult with employees of any state agency or department necessary to accomplish the task force's responsibilities.

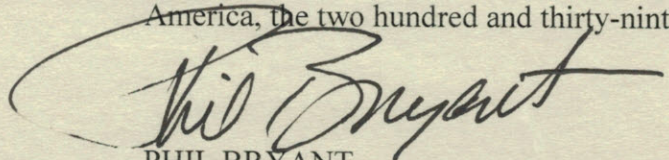
Not later than six (6) months after the first meeting of the task force, the task force shall prepare and submit a final report that contains a detailed statement of findings, conclusions and recommendations of the task force to the Governor and Legislature. Given the importance of the matters before the task force, the task force should work toward unanimously supported findings and recommendations, and the task force shall state the vote total for each recommendation contained in its report to Legislature.

The task force shall be abolished upon submission of the report to the Governor and the Legislature.

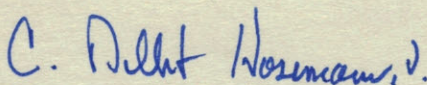


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the 21st day of November, in the year of our Lord, two thousand and fourteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-ninth.


PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

BY THE GOVERNOR



C. DELBERT HOSEMAN, JR.
SECRETARY OF STATE