

Minutes

State Insurance Committee  
December 4, 2020  
9:00 am (central)

The State Insurance Committee met on December 4, 2020 at 9:00 am (central) via WebEx.

Members participating:

Eugene Neubert, representing Butch Eley, Commissioner, Finance and Administration  
Justin Wilson, Comptroller of the Treasury  
Rick Dubray, representing David Lillard, State Treasurer  
Brian Hoffmeister, representing Carter Lawrence, Commissioner, Commerce and Insurance  
Juan Williams, Commissioner, Human Resources  
Michelle Consiglio-Young, state employee representative  
Randy Stamps, Tennessee State Employees Association  
Rob Chance, representing Higher Education  
Senator Bo Watson, Senate Finance Ways and Means Committee  
Representative Susan Lynn, Chair, House Finance Ways and Means Committee

Deputy Commissioner Neubert called the meeting to order at 9:00 am (central). A roll call of attendance noted a quorum was present. Deputy Commissioner Neubert advised that Executive Order #65 signed by Governor Lee provides that a governing body may conduct essential business by electronic means without a quorum of members present in the same location, if the governing body determines that meeting electronically is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of Tennesseans in light of the COVID-19 outbreak.

The items on the agenda for the Committee’s consideration included:

- Approval of Premium Holiday
- Update on Virta Pilot

Senator Watson made a motion that the State Insurance Committee approve proceeding electronically without a quorum present at the same location. Comptroller Wilson seconded the motion which passed with the following roll call vote:

Neubert	yes	Wilson	yes
Dubray	yes	Hoffmeister	yes
Williams	yes	Consiglio-Young	yes
Stamps	yes	Chance	yes
Watson	yes	Lynn	yes

## Agenda Item #1 – Premium Holiday

Laurie Lee, Executive Director, Benefits Administration (BA) noted that for 2020, the State Plan had approved a premium holiday and a 0% premium increase as a plan to spend down excess reserves. With expenditures being less than anticipated, the current reserves for the State Plan continue to exceed the 10% solvency reserve minimum. Members were advised that the State active healthcare trend has been at or below national average for 2017 through 2020. For 2021, the Committee approved a 2.8% premium increase and Ms. Lee recommended adoption of a premium holiday for 2021 to further spend down excess reserves. If approved, the State Plan's reserves are projected to still exceed the minimum target solvency reserve at the end of CY 2021 by \$76 million.

Senator Watson made a motion to approve a premium holiday for active higher education and state employees effective June 2021. Mr. Stamps seconded the motion which passed with the following roll call vote:

Neubert	yes	Wilson	yes
Dubray	yes	Hoffmeister	yes
Williams	yes	Consiglio-Young	yes
Stamps	yes	Chance	yes
Watson	yes	Lynn	yes

## Agenda Item #2 – Virta Pilot Update

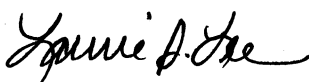
Paige Turner, Director of Population Health, BA, provided an update on the Virta Pilot available to state employees that involves an individualized nutrition plan based on carbohydrate restriction that provides glycemic control, weight loss and medication reduction or elimination. Key statistics following 6 months of participation included:

- Average reduction in A1C by 1.5 points
- 4.5x increase in glycemic control
- Average of 6.7% weight loss
- 64% of diabetes-specific prescriptions eliminated by participants

Director Lee noted that staff would continue to review data and pharmacy savings from the pilot, determine what other programs with similar results are available and make a recommendation on how to move forward at a future meeting. Additionally, staff will provide similar information to the members of the Local Education and Local Government Insurance Committees.

Deputy Commissioner Neubert noted that the next meeting was scheduled for January 21, 2021 at 1:00 pm. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:22 am.

Respectfully submitted,



Laurie S. Lee