

A bill for an act
relating to health care; creating a study group to make recommendations on the
creation and operation of a voluntary, statewide health care purchasing pool.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **HEALTH CARE PURCHASING POOL STUDY GROUP.**

Subdivision 1. **Creation; membership.** A health care purchasing pool study group
is created to study and make recommendations regarding the creation of a voluntary,
statewide health care purchasing pool that would contract directly with providers to
provide affordable health coverage to eligible Minnesota residents. The study group is
composed of:

(1) the chief house and senate authors of this act;
(2) the chairs of the senate Committee on Health, Housing, and Family Security and
the Health and Human Services Budget Division;

(3) the chairs of the house Health Care and Human Services Committee and the
Health Care and Human Services Division;

(4) the attorney general or the attorney general's designated representative;

(5) three representatives of health care providers appointed as follows:

(i) one member appointed by the governor;

(ii) one member appointed by the speaker of the house; and

(iii) one member appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the senate
Committee on Rules and Administration; and

(6) two consumers of health care appointed by the governor.

All appointments to be made under this subdivision must be made within 30 days
of the effective date of this act.

2.1 Subd. 2. **Study; report.** The study group shall study and make recommendations
2.2 on the following issues related to the creation, maintenance, and funding of a voluntary,
2.3 statewide health care purchasing pool to provide comprehensive, cost-effective, and
2.4 medically appropriate health coverage to all public and private employees in Minnesota
2.5 and all Minnesota residents:

2.6 (1) the creation of an independent public entity to administer the pool;

2.7 (2) possible utilization of the new health care purchasing unit in the Department of
2.8 Health, formerly in the old Department of Employee Relations;

2.9 (3) eligibility and participation requirements for existing public and private health
2.10 care purchasing pools, public and private employers, and residents of this state;

2.11 (4) how to contract directly with providers to provide comprehensive coverage for
2.12 preventive, mental health, dental and other medical services, and comprehensive drug
2.13 benefits to enrollees and maximize the cost savings and other efficiencies that a large
2.14 purchasing pool would be expected to generate without the need for a public subsidy;

2.15 (5) provisions that allow the pool to contract directly with health care providers
2.16 to provide coverage to enrollees;

2.17 (6) incentives designed to attract and retain the maximum number of enrollees;

2.18 (7) recommendations for the administration of the pool and the services that will
2.19 be available to enrollees including, but not limited to, recommendations to keep the pool
2.20 solvent and profitable so that public subsidies are not necessary; and

2.21 (8) other elements the task force concludes are necessary or desirable for the pool
2.22 to possess.

2.23 The study group shall submit its report and the draft legislation necessary to
2.24 implement its recommendations to the legislature and the governor by February 1, 2008.
2.25 The study group expires upon submission of its report to the legislature and the governor.

2.26 Subd. 3. **Staffing.** State agencies shall supply the study group with any advisory
2.27 staff services the study group considers necessary to complete the study and report under
2.28 subdivision 2.

2.29 **Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2.30 This act is effective the day following final enactment.