

Colleagues and Interested Parties,

This note provides a brief update on the activities and upcoming board schedule for the California Health Benefit Exchange.

### **Board Meeting – April 26<sup>th</sup>: Exchange Planning Status and Small Employer Health Options Landscape**

The board held its board meeting last week in Sacramento and covered a range of issues. As always, information from board meetings is available on the Exchange's website at [www.hbex.ca.gov](http://www.hbex.ca.gov), but links to specific documents are embedded in the discussions that follow.

**Exchange Planning:** The Board heard a [presentation](#) providing an update on the status of a variety of issues, including stakeholder engagement, health plan management, outreach and marketing, and the assister program, and provided a proposed calendar of activities. During this session, I reported that the Exchange would investigate transitional federal partnership options for website management and call center operations to potentially support California's launch in October 2013. In addition, the board discussed two items about which public comment was invited (which can be sent to [info@hbex.ca.gov](mailto:info@hbex.ca.gov)):

- The Board received a [discussion brief](#) on stakeholder engagement options describing current stakeholder engagement and providing options for topic-specific advisory groups, regional advisory groups, and statewide ad hoc groups. Staff recommended maintaining the current stakeholder engagement approach through 2012 and transitioning to topic-specific advisory groups and statewide ad hoc groups in 2013.
- The Board received draft [Guidelines for Selection and Oversight of Qualified Health Plans](#) to provide principles for health plan management. These policy guidelines include promoting affordability, assuring access to quality care, facilitating informed choice of health plans and providers, promoting wellness, reducing health disparities, being a catalyst for delivery system reform, and operating with speed and agility.

**SHOP Landscape:** The Board heard a panel presentation including an [overview of the SHOP](#), the [PacAdvantage experience](#), the [small business perspective](#), the consumer advocate perspective, and the broker perspective. The Board asked questions of the panelists and listened to public comment.

### **Upcoming Board and Stakeholder Input Schedule – Update**

The Board has updated its calendar to address current issues. For May the Board now plans to have two meetings:

- **Board Meeting: May 15<sup>th</sup>, 10:00-4:00.** On May 15<sup>th</sup> the Board will meet in Sacramento from 10:00 to 4:00, at the Tsakopoulos Library Galleria, East Meeting Room, in downtown Sacramento at 828 I Street. Please note that this is a different location from the previous Board meetings. The agenda for that meeting is attached. The Board will have get background reports and invite public comment on the federal partnership option prior to going into closed session at approximately 11:00 am. We expect the open session to resume at approximately 3:00 pm.
- **Board Meeting: May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00-4:00.** The Board has scheduled an additional meeting scheduled for May 22. The Board plans to carry over to May 22<sup>nd</sup> those issues it had planned to consider on May 15<sup>th</sup> -- an outline of the components of the Level II Establishment grant, and options for: (1) outreach and communications; (2) navigators, assisters, and brokers; (3) the Small Employer Health Options program; and (4) Service Center operations.
- **Stakeholder Background Session: May 16, 9:30- Noon Overview of Outreach, Marketing and Navigator Options.** In advance of the May 22<sup>nd</sup> board meeting, the Exchange plans to hold an overview briefing of options being considered. This will allow an opportunity for stakeholders to both provide initial feedback and be better informed to provide the board comments at the full board meeting. Information on this session will be posted at the Exchange website.

Thanks,

Peter

**Peter V. Lee**  
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California Health Benefit Exchange