



Mid-Valley Health Care Advocates

501 NW 25th St., Corvallis, OR 97330

Advocacy Vision for an Oregon Public Option

The single publicly owned and publicly administered plan within the exchange must:

- Be established as a public entity or a public non-profit corporation, operating exclusively in the public interest.
- Provide a benchmark for exceptional quality care, customer service, controlling costs and ensuring maximum value.
- Offer a significant *choice* to any Oregonian or business eligible to purchase insurance through the exchange.
- Operate as one of various health plan options available through the Insurance Exchange and meet the same Oregon Health Policy Board and legislatively approved requirements as private plans operating in the exchange. Like all plans operating in Oregon, the public option must be a participant in and beneficiary of the reinsurance pool.
- Maintain competitive premium rates for individuals and groups; maintain prudent, but not excessive reserves; eliminate profit.
- Conduct operations in a completely transparent manner; be accountable to the public and seek public input on an ongoing basis to improve quality and scope of services.
- Invite public participation regularly in reviewing plan services and procedures utilizing district advisory committees and other creative mechanisms for ensuring statewide input.
- Explore innovative and best practices for utilizing payment and incentive models that eliminate disparities in outcomes, encourage prevention focused care, effective chronic disease management and evidence-based medicine.
- We would expect the public option to be recognized for outstanding customer service and extraordinary attention to and coordination of preventive, primary care and public health services.

August 10, 2010

Quality, affordable health care for all.