

Legislative Report February 2011

1. MLR waiver/phase in:
 - a. Under the rules that HHS has put out the waiver does not seem likely.
 - b. NAHU has sent a letter to HHS requesting more latitude in asking for the waiver. I have a copy should anyone want one.
2. Day on the Hill:
 - a. The date is February 3, 2010. CE meeting in the afternoon with legislators and lobbyist. Reception that evening at the Crystal Ballroom with heavy finger food.
 - b. We have over 30 legislators committed to attend this year.
 - c. The afternoon session will be as follows:
 - i. Bill Deal will speak for about 30 minutes
 - ii. John Macky will speak for about 15 minutes
 - iii. Jim Genetti will speak for about 15 minutes
 - iv. Representative Black will speak for about 30 minutes.
 - v. Representative Rusche will speak for about 30 minutes.
 - vi. Senator Cameron will speak for about 30 minutes.
 - vii. Then the reception from about 5:15 until 6:30.
3. Capital Conference
 - a. Coming up February 14th -16th at the Hyatt Regency in Washington DC.
 - b. Appointments are set:
 - i. Mike Simpson at 10 AM
 - ii. Jim Risch 11:30 AM
 - iii. Rep. Labrador 1:45 PM
 - iv. Mike Crapo 2:30 PM
 - c. For those locals who do have anyone coming, I will be willing to come and answer questions, either in person or on the phone.
 - d. Those who have committed to attend:
 - i. Connie Puett, Scott Leavitt, Dan Jones, Darrell Eastman, & Tom Shores
4. Exchanges
 - a. Idaho exchange committee has been appointed by the governor. Their first meeting will be in early February. We have one seat on the committee thus far.
 - b. Jim, Scott, Heather and I had a meeting with the Governor on 21st of January. The meeting was very productive. He asked us to give him some basic wording to help put together a documents to support the agents in

getting commissions outside the MLR's. Scott and national are working on that now.

5. Health Care Task Force Meeting:

- a. Jim has been attending these meetings as the agenda dictates.
- b. When I get copies of the minutes from the staff, I will send them out to the legislative committee to be shared with the locals.

6. Obamacare.

- a. The judge in Florida has ruled that the bill is unconstitutional. That makes two and more states have joined Idaho in the law suit. The hope is that the suit will reach the Supreme Court by the next term in September.
- b. The case will be a hot one and the results will change a lot of things.

7. Commission changes:

- a. Blue Cross has started with the 5% commission. Our commission dropped with Blue Cross by 49%.
- b. Pacific Source has not announced that as of the second quarter that their commissions will be reduced to \$10 for most of their plans. There is a bonus attached depending on the number of clients you have with them you can increase that upward to \$12-\$15 a member per month with no limit on the number in a family the agent will be paid for.
- c. We are waiting for word when Regence will make their announcement of commissions' adjustments and when they will take place.
- d. Needless to say, there will be a major impact this year to our agents.

8. Town hall meeting with Representative Labrador was in Meridian on Saturday the 22nd. The meeting was good and the questions were pretty good. I had a chance to talk to some of the staff afterwards.

9. Yesterday I had a chance to attend the Chamber luncheon and had the chance to sit with Lt. Governor Little and talk to him for about an hour.

10. I attended the Idaho Insurance Council luncheon on Tuesday the 25th and had a chance to meet and greet several legislators.

11. Jim and I have been invited to attend a meeting each Tuesday on the Any Willing Provider law that Representative Nonini has said that he will reintroduce again this year. Jim went this Tuesday.