



June 2023 Monthly Report

Throughout the month of May, state agencies began implementation plans for the various budgets and policies that passed during the 2023 Legislative Session. With the legislature finishing their work in April, the agencies have started to create plans for new programs that were an outcome of this session, spanning from the Medicaid Task Force to, fire prevention, broadband expansion, new property tax processes, transportation grant programs, the Idaho Launch Program expansion and more. Agency boards have started to distribute funds for the FY 23 supplementals and have planned for funds after July 1, 2023, with the start of the new fiscal year and new budget cycle. BB&A has been working with agencies and boards including attending public meetings and other agency meetings to ensure we can keep your priorities moving and keep you up to date throughout the process.

The state of Idaho tracks all agency meetings through the new [Idaho Townhall](#) website which serves as a clearing house for all public meetings. This is a very useful tool and helps all Idahoans engage in the process. We aim to always be aware of and involved in these meetings. One of our goals is to be “in the right place, all the time”. This serves us well both in and out of session. Wherever decisions are being made or opportunities to advance your goals exist, we want to be there. We encourage your participation alongside us as we advocate for you. Typically, public meetings are posted a couple of weeks prior, but they can be posted just a few days before the meeting takes place. All rulemakings, board meetings, and other government meetings are on the town hall website.

With the end of session, comes the beginning of agency administrative rulemakings. Many agencies have started to release the first draft of their negotiated rulemaking changes and have also begun another round of the Zero-Based Regulation (ZBR) process. ZBR will run through 2025, where all rules will be updated and consolidated by the end of the 2026 Legislative Session. Then, the rulemakings process will be on an eight (8) year cycle; however, we anticipate these rulemakings will not be nearly as drastic of cuts since the groundwork is being done now. The schedule of rulemakings by year can be found [HERE](#).

As we move into the summer, BB&A will remain actively working to maintain and build relationships with our legislators, as well as with agency and local decision-makers, Governor’s staff, and more. With this being a non-election year for legislative and statewide offices, we are watching many of the local races for mayor, city council, etc. The General Election for local elections will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023. Turnover is a natural part of what we do but it also means a constant effort to ensure we have the connections and relationships to open doors for you.

This time of the year is also a time for us to do research and ensure we are framing our legislative ideas correctly before sharing them with legislators in the fall ahead of next session. We continue to be in touch with legislators from every region of Idaho to keep these valuable relationships updated. BB&A has been and will continue to attend local, regional, and national events and conferences to keep close ties with community members, local legislators, and other key partners. These meetings help us keep up to date on issues, as well as develop greater working relationships. These partnerships allow us to continue our successes for you and the state in the future. We are happy to make introductions to key partners as we move forward to develop your own relationships as we continue to serve you.

We are also enjoying the opportunity to get back into the rhythm of regular meetings and conversations with you. We are grateful for your trust, and it remains a privilege to serve and advocate on your behalf. If there is ever anything else we can do to be of service to you, or the state, please do not hesitate to reach out to ask questions, discuss updates, or anything else you may need.

As a reminder, all bills from the 2023 Idaho Legislative Session are on the [Idaho State Legislative Website](#). The Governor’s Bill Action for the 2023 Legislative Session can be found [HERE](#). For a full list of bills and when they were treated by Governor Little click [HERE](#).



NABIP June 2023 Highlights

On May 3, 2023, BB&A attended the Department of Insurance High-Risk Reinsurance Pool Board Meeting where they discussed the High-Risk Pool Report, the Mountain Health Co-op appeal, and Actuarial Committee projection scenarios. Laren Walker led the board through the High-Risk Pool Report. She compared FY22 and FY23 and the projections for FY24 and spoke on how revenue will be significantly higher than normal due to the \$1M they were awarded. Next, Ms. Walker explain the Mountain Health Co-op appeal which involves ceding members, and how the numbers that Mountain West Co-op received were in the wrong format. The board unanimously decided to deny the appeal. The Actuarial Committee looked at two projection scenarios for 2024. The first one is based on 95,000 members for consistency with 2023 projections, and the second looked at 104,000 members and assumed 2024 state premium taxpayers. The Actuarial Committee will have its next teleconference on August 22, 2023, at 2 pm. The Idaho Reinsurance Program is starting its first projection for 2024 and has been reviewing the 2023 projected market impacts. Their goal for this meeting was to determine the desired percentage impact of the CBHRO on the 2024 marking premiums, the board approved 16% passing 5-4. Director Cameron and Wes Trexler then presented a brief legislative update and that there was nothing impactful from the session. The Department will be starting its rule review with meetings on June 7, 2023, and June 27, 2023. The next meeting for the Department of Insurance High-Risk Reinsurance Board Meeting will be on Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

On May 10, 2023, BB&A attended the IDHW Medicaid cost-sharing negotiated rulemaking meeting. For this rulemaking session, IDHW looked at Docket [16-0318-2301](#) and went into depth on some sections. For Sections 000-199 language was updated and clarified, outdated references were removed, and definitions that were not in use were removed as well. In Section 200 – Premiums for Participation Under the State Children’s Health Insurance Program, they looked at general costs and premiums for participation under the State Children’s Health Insurance Program. They added sections for premium recalculations and premium reduction. In Section 205 - Premiums for Participation Under Home Care for Certain Disabled Children, they matched the language to meet current department terminology and removed language that was in conflict with federal requirements. The last section they look at was Section 400 – Participation in the Cost of Home and Community-Based Waiver Service, and most of the sections were removed because they are no longer relevant. The removed sections include the definition of home and community-based services, and home and community-based service spouses. Public comments will be accepted until May 31,23 and the public hearing will be scheduled for later this fall.

On Friday, May 12, 2023, the Idaho Department of Insurance gave a presentation during the Public Forum for Idaho 1332 Reinsurance Waiver. The goal of the waiver is to reduce health insurance premiums for those who buy insurance on the individual market. The 1332 State Innovation Waiver permits states to waive parts of the Affordable Care Act through a combination of federal pass-through savings and one-time state funding, allowing the Idaho High-Risk Reinsurance Pool to pay claims.

The program is funded and paid through the High-Risk Insurance Pool but administered by the Department of Insurance. Idaho’s 1332 waiver was approved by CMS in August 2022 and became effective in January 2023. It is effective through December 2027 and can be renewed for an additional five years. The Department submits Quarterly and Annual reports to CMS and must provide an Annual Public Report on the progress of the waiver (this public webinar). Due to increased funding medical conditions covered by the waiver expanded from 6 to 73. \$51,453,577 waiver funds were awarded on April 28, 2023. The waiver has reduced health insurance premiums by 12% and is anticipated to be further reduced to 16% in 2024. For more information on the waiver, click [HERE](#).

On Monday, May 10, 2023, BB&A introduced the NABIP recommendation, Stephanie, to Rep. Redman to put her forward as a formal recommendation for the Medicaid Task Force. Rep. Redman believes that Stephanie will bring a unique voice as a stakeholder to the table when discussing a managed care model. There will be ten (10) legislators on this Task Force and numerous members at large or public members. These public members range from insurance to all



hospital providers, and many others. Rep. Redman is willing to share the list of public members once the ten legislators are announced at the end of May. Official recommendations will be made by the Legislative Council in June