

**NH Vaccine Association – Teleconference  
Combined Board / Assessment Equity Task Force  
February 19, 2013  
Presiding Officer: Susan Tenney, Chair**

**I. Attendance.** Participating in all or part of the meeting by telephone (T) were the following individuals:

Directors

Susan Tenney  
Dr. John F. Modlin  
Maria Proulx  
Marcella Bobinsky

DHHS

Kate Frey

KidsVax.org™

Fred Potter  
Claire Roberge  
Emily McKenna

Other

Kris Adamnski-NH Division of Public Health

**II. Summary of Actions Taken and/or Recommended**

**A. Actions Taken (votes adopted)**

No votes were taken.

**B. Follow up**

1. Ms. Tenney will find out if Dartmouth Hitchcock purchases reinsurance.
2. Mr. Potter will contact Frank McDougal from Dartmouth Hitchcock to see if someone from there is willing to testify.
3. Ms. Frey will contact Janet Monahan at the Medical Society to see who will be testifying on their behalf.
4. Ms. Frey will contact the Department of Insurance to see who will be testifying on their behalf.
5. Ms. Proulx will ask Paula Rogers if she will submit brief written testimony in support of Ms. Tenney's statements in support of bill.
6. KidsVax.org will provide 25-30 copies of previously-developed background materials for the committee.

**C. Tentative Testimony plans**

1. Bill sponsor (Rep. Harding)
2. Ms. Tenney
3. Kate Frey for DHHS
4. ??? for NHID
5. Medical Society Representative
6. ??? others
7. Mr. Potter to provide clean-up, if helpful.

**III. Minutes**

Ms. McKenna did a roll call. Mr. Potter noted that this is not an action meeting so there does not need to be a quorum. He asked Ms. Tenney if the meeting should begin – after waiting 5 minutes, the meeting commenced. Ms. Frey stated that the hearing is Friday at 1:30 pm. She reminded those testifying to fill out a pink card and submit it to the committee chair. She said that ideally after the sponsor speaks it would be great to have someone give a broad overview of the Vaccine Association. Ms. Frey suggested that Ms. Tenney and Mr. Potter team up on this. Ms. Frey said that DHHS does plan to testify, but that they are a little short staffed that day and that she thinks it will likely be herself testifying for DHHS. She plans to outline the public health impacts and what has been achieved through the Vaccine Association. She then suggested that it would be good to get an idea of who will be testifying and what points they plan to cover.

Mr. Potter said he had made adjustments to travel plans surrounding birth of his youngest daughter's first child to be able to be there. Ms. Tenney said that she will be there and will be prepared to testify. She said that she has been advised by Harvard Pilgrim's government relations person that she should be testifying as a Harvard Pilgrim employee and as chair of NHVA. She has to represent the views of Harvard Pilgrim – and will be speaking in support of the bill. She plans to testify from the insurance

perspective. Ms. Frey asked if there was anyone else on the call planning to testify. There were no others. She inquired for David Sky, and stated that she would email the Department of Insurance to ask what their plan is since Mr. Sky was not able to join this call. Ms. Frey said that it would be great if Ms. Tenney could speak first, but that it is up to the chair of the committee who would be called first. Ms. Frey said she would speak to Representative Harding and see if she can ask the chair to have Ms. Tenney speak first. She suggested that Mr. Potter could go up with Ms. Tenney and after her testimony answer the more specific questions. Or Mr. Potter can go up separately since Ms. Tenney will be speaking from the insurance side of things. It might be better to do it this way so that Mr. Potter can be the clean-up person for questions at the end. Mr. Potter pointed out that he can also speak to the effectiveness of state facilities that have broadened the base to include TPAs, namely Washington and Maine, where this has helped to lower the assessment rate. Ms. Tenney also stated that because she has been on the Board for so long she can talk about some of the background, such as how the covered lives has decreased each year. She stated that she is not comfortable talking about ERISA vs. non-ERISA, which might be too much detail anyway. Ms. Frey said that all those points will be very relative since the hearing is by the Commerce Committee which is the committee that really looks at insurance issues. DHHS's testimony will be more basic, why we do it this way; we are a model state etc.

Ms. Proulx asked if anyone had heard from the ASO groups as to whether or not they are going to show up to testify in opposition. Ms. Proulx said she reached out to LGC about it, but she has not gotten an answer yet, she is waiting to hear back from their attorney. Right now LGC is buying reinsurance, so they are paying in for this year. Ms. Frey asked that if anyone hears of a group planning to testify in opposition they let everyone else know so that everyone knows what to expect and what issues to address.

Mr. Potter said that the Medical Society is planning to have someone testify. Dr. Kassler was not certain who that would be when last we met. Ms. Frey said that she would be seeing Janet Monahan today and would ask her. Fred asked Ms. Tenney if she was able to identify a self-insurer such as Dartmouth Hitchcock. Ms. Tenney said that they insure them through Health Plans Inc. and that she can ask if they purchase reinsurance. Dr. Modlin said that he thought Dartmouth Hitchcock might be willing formally to support this. He pointed out that as an institution they have increasingly focused on creating a healthy population as opposed to just focusing on their own patients. He suggested that someone contact Frank McDougal the Vice President of Government Relations. Ms. Frey asked Mr. Potter to touch base with Mr. McDougal, since Mr. Potter knows the technical points better. Mr. Potter asked Ms. Tenney to let him know if Dartmouth Hitchcock is reinsured currently and said that once he had that information he would be happy to contact Mr. McDougal.

Mr. Potter said that it had been mentioned that Paula Rogers might be able to speak from an industry perspective, and asked if it still makes sense. Ms. Proulx said that Attorney Rogers would be leaving the country on Thursday, but that they would be meeting later in the day and that she would get a final report from her about any opposition she has heard about. Ms. Proulx said she would send an email with any information Attorney Rogers passes on. Mr. Potter asked is it would be possible for Attorney Rogers to give a one page written testimony and have someone present it. Mr. Potter noted his high regard for Attorney Rogers and his view that she was particularly effective before the legislature. Ms. Proulx said she would ask, but pointed out that normally what happens in these types of situations if Harvard Pilgrim is testifying and takes a stance that Anthem agrees with, Anthem just says we agree, or vice versa depending on who is testifying.


Ms. Frey reminded everyone to fill out a pink card when they get to the hearing. She also said that it is helpful to pick up the line-numbered version of the bill provided in the hearing room since that is the one committee members will refer to if questions are asked. If anyone plans on providing written testimony or background info, bring 20-25 copies and have them three-hole punched. Ms. Frey said she was unsure where the bill would go after this hearing, so we will have to sit and listen to what their plan is and if there are follow up items that are requested we will have to act quickly to get them back to the committee. Mr. Potter said that KidsVax.org™ has several pieces that they prepared as background information, and asked if it would be good to provide those. Ms. Frey said that broad information or an overview piece would be great. Mr. Potter said that he would have the 10-Year-in-Review piece at the hearing and have the other pieces available if need be for follow up.

Any follow up items can be communicated through Emily McKenna.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:26 a.m.

At true record.

Attest,

  
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Fred L. Potter  
Secretary, Pro Tem