

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Establishment of the Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan (CO-OP) Advisory Board

AGENCY: Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight.

ACTION: Federal Register Notice.

Authority: The Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan (CO-OP) Advisory Board is required under section 1322 of The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) that calls for the establishment of the Consumer Operated and Oriented Plans (CO-OP) Program, which will foster the creation of qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers to offer qualified health plans in the individual and small group markets. The Advisory Board is governed by provisions of Public Law 92-463, as amended, (5 U.S.C. App. 2), which sets forth standards for the formation and use of advisory committees.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announces establishment of the Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan (CO-OP) Advisory Board, as directed by section 1322 of PPACA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Roman Gurule, Office of Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight, Department of Health and Human Services; Telephone 202-260-6053; Fax 202-260-6108.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Public Law 111-148-Section 1322 of PPACA establishes the Advisory Board within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). To comply with the authorizing directive and guidelines under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), a charter has been filed with the Committee Management Secretariat in the General Services Administration (GSA), the appropriate committees in the Senate and U.S. House of Representatives, and the Library of Congress to establish the Advisory Board as a non-discretionary Federal advisory committee. The charter was filed on June 18, 2010.

Objectives and Scope of Activities

The Consumer Operated and Oriented Plan (CO-OP) Advisory Board is the Department's statutory public advisory body to foster the creation of qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers. The Advisory Board will assist and advise the Secretary and Congress through the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Consumer Information and Insurance Oversight

(OCIO) on the Department's strategy to foster the creation of qualified nonprofit health insurance issuers. Specifically, the Committee shall advise the Secretary and Congress concerning the award of grants and loans related to the CO-OP Program.

Membership and Designation

PPACA gave the Comptroller General of the United States responsibility for appointing the Advisory Board's 15 members from among individuals with qualifications described in section 1805(c)(2) of the Social Security Act. Any individual appointed under the board shall meet ethics and conflict of interest standards protecting against insurance industry involvement and interference. Any vacancy on the advisory board shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. All members, while so serving away from their homes or regular places of business, may be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in the same manner as such expenses are authorized by subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

Administrative Management and Support

HHS will provide funding and administrative support for the Advisory Board to the extent permitted by law within existing appropriations. Management and oversight for support services provided to the Advisory Board will be the responsibility of the Office of Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight, which is a staff division within HHS. Staff will be assigned to support the activities of the Advisory Board.

A copy of the Commission charter can be obtained from the designated contacts or by accessing the FACA database that is maintained by the GSA Committee Management Secretariat. The website for the FACA database is <http://fido.gov/facadatabase/>.

Dated: June 17, 2010.

Jay Angoff,

Director, Office of Consumer Information & Insurance Oversight.

[FR Doc. 2010-15223 Filed 6-22-10; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4120-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Administration for Children and Families

Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation Advisory Committee on Head Start Research and Evaluation

AGENCY: Administration for Children and Families, Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the re-establishment of the Advisory Committee on Head Start Research and Evaluation. The Secretary is required by section 649(g)(1) of Public Law 92-463 to convene an expert committee to review and make recommendations on the design of the study or studies that provide national analysis of the impact of Head Start programs. This committee will also advise on the progress of the study, and comment, if so desired, on the interim and final study reports of the organization(s) selected for carrying out the independent research.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jennifer Brooks, Office of Planning, Research and Evaluation, e-mail jennifer.brooks@acf.hhs.gov or (202) 205-8212.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Secretary is required by section 649(g)(1) of Public Law 92-463 to convene an expert advisory committee to review and make recommendations on the design of the study or studies that provide national analysis of the impact of Head Start programs. An Advisory Committee for Head Start Research and Evaluation was first chartered on March 23, 1999 for two years. It was rechartered in November 2001, again in November 2003, and finally on November 4, 2005. The charter expired on November 6, 2007. This notice pertains to the re-establishment of an Advisory Committee for Head Start Research and Evaluation.

The Advisory Committee for Head Start Research and Evaluation will provide feedback on the published final report for the Head Start Impact Study, offering interpretations of the findings, discussing implications for practice and policy, and providing recommendations on follow-up research, including additional analysis of the Head Start Impact Study. The Committee will also be asked to provide recommendations to the Secretary regarding how to improve Head Start and other early childhood