



Legislative Highlights April 25, 2022

NOTES OF INTEREST

- Both chambers of the legislature will meet to vote on legislation starting next week.
- As of 4/22, the Senate is scheduled to meet Tuesday 4/26-Friday 4/29 at 11 am. The House is scheduled to meet on Tuesday 4/26 at 12:00pm.
- The House and Senate sessions can both be streamed live on CT-N.com
- Access Health CT Board of Directors will meet next May 19, 2022. Meeting materials can be found [here](#)

LEGISLATION

As of Monday, April 25, there are 8 full days left in the 2022 legislative session. At this time, only 5 of the bills tracked for CBB remain “alive,” and as of last Friday, there has been no chamber action on any CBB bills. Reminder, bills that are currently considered “dead” can always come back in the form of amendments to other legislation. We will be reviewing all amendments closely and will be sure to keep you up to date on all issues, bills, and amendments of interest.

Senate President Martin Looney has filed [a strike all amendment to SB 364](#) An Act Concerning Health Insurance. Currently, SB 364 has placeholder language. The proposed amendment contains language pertaining to step therapy for prescription drugs intended to treat behavioral health issues or chronic/life-threatening disease. Additionally, the amendment includes changes to regulations for Compliance with the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act ([Sec. 38a-591](#) of the Connecticut General Statutes), including changes to utilization review policies for health carriers.

Representative Kerry Wood, House Chair of the Insurance and Real Estate committee, will attend the CT AHU Annual Meeting as the Key Note Speaker on May 24th.

ADMINISTRATION

All three of the governor’s legislative proposals pertaining to health care costs remain viable at this time and sit on their respective chambers’ calendars awaiting a vote. Senate Democratic leadership has [filed a minor amendment to S.B. No. 15](#) An Act Encouraging Primary And Preventive Care. Senate Democratic leaders (excluding Senate Insurance Chair Matt Lesser) have also [filed an amendment on S.B. No. 13](#) An Act Reducing Prescription Drug Prices. The amendment would strip the prescription drug price cap section from the legislation. In the House, Insurance chair Kerry Wood [filed a strike all amendment to H.B. No. 5042](#) An Act Concerning Health Care Cost Growth. No other action has been taken on these bills at this time and the governor has not spoken publicly on them either.





ACCESS HEALTH CT APRIL 21, 2022 MEETING

The Access Health CT Board of Directors met on April 21, 2022. The meeting included a finance update for Access Health. The Board of Directors voted to adopt their third quarter budget report, which included a \$25,000 Grant from CT Health Foundation for Broker Academy. The Board of Directors also heard a presentation on Access Health CT's 2023 budget. Included in the budget for 2023 is a proposal to increase the assessment rate on fully-insured health insurance plans from 1.65% to 1.80%. The increase would go into effect January 1 of 2023 and result in a \$1 per member per month increase on fully-insured health plans. According to CBIA, the proposed rate change will result in a \$2.8 million increase on fully-insured health plans over the next two years. Due to board members' concerns with the assessment rate increase and other items in the 2023 budget, the Access Health Board of Directors tabled the budget and assessment increase for a vote until their May meeting.

April 21, 2022 Access Health Board of Directors Meeting Resources:

- [Meeting presentation](#)
- [Meeting recording](#)
- [Public Comment submitted by CBIA](#) in opposition to proposed assessment increase
- Access Health Board of Directors allow public comment at all of their meetings. Comments can be submitted by emailing them to Marcin.Olechowski@ct.gov by 4pm the day before BOD meetings.

KEY INFORMATION RESOURCES:

- **FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION FROM THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT ON COVID-19, INCLUDING GUIDANCE AND OTHER RESOURCES, ALL RESIDENTS IN THE STATE ARE ENCOURAGED TO VISIT [CT.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://portal.ct.gov/CID/Bulletins/Current-List-of-Bulletins)**
- **CT Insurance Department Bulletins:** <https://portal.ct.gov/CID/Bulletins/Current-List-of-Bulletins>
- **Connecticut Paid Leave Authority website:** [CTPaidLeave.org](https://www.ctpaidleave.org)

RECENT ARTICLES AND OP-EDS OF NOTE:

Hartford Business Journal: [Harvard Pilgrim exiting CT's commercial health insurance market](#)

CT Post Opinion: [Sean Scanlon \(opinion\): Comptroller position key to CT future](#)

CT Post: [Health insurance coverage for kids through Medicaid and CHIP helps their moms too](#)

CBIA: [State Health Insurance Exchange Delays Costly Assessment Hike](#)

CBIA: [DOL Releases Final Draft of Proposed FMLA Regulations](#)



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