

Senator William Stouffer, Chairman
Senator Victor Callahan
Steve Reintjes, MD
John Stanley, MD
David Carpenter



Representative Robert Schaaf, MD
Representative Curt Dougherty
Lancer Gates, DO
Gloria Solis, RN, MSN, MBA

Health Care Stabilization Fund Feasibility Board

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September 12, 2008

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:40pm.

Board Members in Attendance: Senator William Stouffer, Senator Victor Callahan, Rep. Curt Dougherty, Rep. Rob Schaaf, Gloria Solis, RN, Dr. John Stanley, Dr. Lancer Gates.

Others in Attendance: Brent Kabler, Unni Mundaya, DIFP;

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes was made by Sen. Callahan and seconded by Sen. Stouffer with all in favor.

Presentation of 2007 DIFP Medical Malpractice Data (Brent Kabler, DIFP)

Brent Kabler discussed methods of codifying data pertaining to medical errors. The malpractice claims data collected by the DIFP contains a wealth of historical information about medical errors, but until recently the information was not usable because it was submitted in narrative form. The DIFP implemented a pilot project to codify and quantify this information. Results from this effort were presented to the board.

Following a general discussion of the data, the board agreed that the DIFP should continue these efforts, and that such data could be quite useful to medical practitioners in terms of identifying patterns of medical incidents.

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Survey of Medical Physicians Regarding Opinions About a Possible Healthcare Stabilization Fund (Dr. Lancer Gates, Brent Kabler)

Dr. Gates discussed ideas to circulate a survey to Missouri physicians to determine the level of support for the creation of a stabilization fund. Dr. Gates stated that the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons (MAOPS) and the Missouri State Medical Association (MSMA) would be good conduits to circulate the survey questionnaire. Dr. Gates stated that the results should reveal attitudes among physicians in different portions of the state. Sen. Stouffer opined that such results would be important to determine whether a possible stabilization fund should be implemented on a statewide basis or on a smaller geographic level.

The board members made several recommendations for changing the language of the questionnaire. The survey methods were finalized, and plans were made to disburse the survey via MOAPS and MSMA.

Discussion of the annual interim report

The board discussed the various items that could be included in the annual report. It was felt that the survey results, expected to be available in time for inclusion in the report, should be the primary focus. The board was of the opinion that no specific recommendations should be made regarding the establishment of a stabilization fund, and that it was important to gauge the attitudes of Missouri physicians prior to making any such recommendations. A draft report was to be made available for review prior to the December meeting.

It was expected that the December meeting would be devoted primarily to a discussion of the draft report.