FUNDAMENTALS OF HEALTH INSURANCE

Licensing, Solvency, Rate and Form Filing

Brian Webb, Manager

Health Policy & Legislation

National Association of Insurance Commissioners



So, You Want to Start a Health Insurance Company

- Must have a Certificate of Authority
- Must meet Solvency requirements
- Must have an approved Form
- Must have approved Rates



Obtaining a Certificate of Authority

- Uniform Certificate of Authority Application
 - □ All States Participate
 - Some Additional Information Required
 - New (or redomesticating) Companies File Primary Application
 - Existing Companies File Expansion Application



Submitting a Primary Application

- Submission Approved (about 2 weeks)
- Submission Reviewed (about 90 days)
 - □ Lines of Business
 - Name Approval
 - □ Biographical Affidavits
 - □ Plan of Operation
 - □ Financial Information



Financial Information Required

- Capital and Surplus Requirements
- Deposits
- Holding Companies
- SEC or Consolidated GAAP Statements
- Debt-to-Equity Rate



Submitting an Expansion (Foreign) Application

- Submission Approved (about 2 weeks)
- Submission Reviewed (45-60 days)
 - □ Same Information as for Primary Application
 - □ Plus:
 - Certificate of Compliance from State of Domicile
 - Report of Financial Exams



Solvency Regulation

- Protects policyholders against the risk that insurers will not be able to meet their financial obligations.
- Finances: Capital and Surplus, Deposits
- Factors: Seasoning, Maximum Capital on One Risk
- Risk: Risk-Based Capital (RBC) requirements adjust minimum capital and surplus requirements to reflect a company's exposure to risk from the policies they have written and the investment of their reserves.



Solvency Oversight

- Quarterly and annual financial statements
- Regular Examinations every 3-5 years
- Targeted Examinations based upon analysis of statements

Prevention:

- Hearing/Conferences
- Corrective plans
- Restrictions on activities
- Notice of impairment
- Cease and desist orders
- Supervision

Delinquency Proceedings:

- Conservation
- Seizure of Assets
- Rehabilitation
- Liquidation
- Dissolution



Approval of Rates and Policy Forms

- System for Electronic Rate and Form Filing (SERFF)
 - □ 50 States, D.C. and Puerto Rico Participate
 - □ 24 States Require Submission via SERFF

File and Use vs. Use and File



Filing for Form Approval

- Checklist Provided by the State (SERFF)
 - □ Kind of Policy (i.e., Medigap, HMO, PPO, etc)
 - □ Types of Group (i.e., individual, small group)
 - □ Some Require Readability Certification
 - Notification Requirements
 - □ Benefit Requirements (Federal and State)
- Marketing Materials Also Reviewed



Filing for Rate Approval

- Actuarial Certification
 - NAIC Guidance Manual
- Compliance with State Rating Rules
 - □ Community Rate
 - □ Adjusted Community Rate
 - □ Rating Bands
 - No Non-Actuarial Limitations



Are There Any Questions?

???????