

HB 1558 -- Health Benefit Purchasing Cooperatives

Sponsor: Shoemyer (9)

This bill creates a corporate framework for the creation of health benefit purchasing cooperatives. The cooperative would allow individuals, employers, or any other group to combine their purchasing power and, thus, bargaining power, in negotiating and purchasing a health care benefit package from insurers. Each cooperative must report annually to the Department of Insurance and the General Assembly explaining any effect the cooperative has had on health care coverage in the region.

The provisions of the bill will expire six years from the effective date.