HCS HB 1030 -- INSURANCE INNOVATION TASK FORCE

SPONSOR: Hill

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy by a vote of 15 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 1.

This bill creates the "Missouri Health Insurance Innovation Task Force." The purpose of the task force is to solicit concepts on potential forms of innovation in the health insurance marketplace which may qualify the state for a Section 1332 Innovation Waiver. The task force's focus will be on improving access to health care, decreasing premiums, and increasing the number of health carriers available in the state's health insurance market.

The members of the task force must be appointed within 30 days of the effective date of the bill and must hold its first meeting within 15 days. The members include three members appointed by the Speaker of the House and three member appointed by the Senate Pro Tem. The task force must release a final report by December 31, 2019. Any recommendations must be revenue neutral to the General Revenues of the state.

The Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration may work with the task force and with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to develop innovative ways to transform the health insurance market and submit applications for a Section 1332 Innovation Waiver. The department may perform functions which are ancillary to and currently performed by the federally facilitated marketplace if the functions will further the objective of creating alternatives to the Affordable Care Act or are consistent with the objectives and final recommendations of the task force.

The General Assembly is required to pass legislation by May 31, 2020 authorizing the director must submit an application to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for an approval of a Section 1332 Innovation Waiver. The application my be submitted no later than December 31, 2020.

This bill contains an emergency clause.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will allow the state to offer health insurance solutions to more people in Missouri.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hill; Missouri Association of Health Underwriters; and Matthew Barton, Missouri Association of Insurance Agents.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill offered to answer any questions about the bill. Although Section 1332 Waivers can be complicated, it's good to have more options.

Testifying on the bill was Shannon Cooper, Missouri Insurance Coalition.