Catalog of Public Health Insurance Option Resources

Resources from United States of Care
- Public Health Insurance Option Messaging Guide
- State Public Health Insurance Options: A Comparison

USofCare Blogs
- The Nevada Public Option
- The Colorado Option
- State Public Health Insurance Option: Advancing Equitable, Affordable, and Dependable Coverage
- USofCare Webinar: Public Option Progress in the States
- USofCare Response to Congressional Request for Information on Designing a Federal Public Option
- USofCare National Letter in Support of Nevada’s SB420 along with partners Committee to Protect Health Care and Center for Health & Democracy
- Health Affairs: The Public Option Finds An Uncommon Ally In Medicaid In Nevada

Resources From Other Health Care Policy Organizations and Advocates
- State Public Option-Style Laws: What Policymakers Need to Know (The Commonwealth Fund)
  - Details current momentum and progress of public option-style laws at the state and federal level while defining what policymakers will need to know when considering their own public options.
- State Public Options: Comparing Models from Across the Country (California Health Care Foundation and Manatt Health)
  - This report outlines some of the problems states are seeking to address with their public option proposals, reports the proposals’ current status, categorizes
the public option proposals into four key archetypes, and identifies important issues for California policymakers to consider as they explore the use of a state-based public option.

★ **A Public Option for Health Insurance in the Nongroup Marketplaces: Key Design Considerations and Implications** (Congressional Budget Office)
  ○ The report describes the key design considerations for a federally administered public option and some of the major implications.

★ **Nevada is on the verge of passing a public option** (Vox)
  ○ Article from Dylan Scott on Nevada passing the public option, and comparison with other public option legislation and proposals.

★ **The State of Play: A Mid-Year Update on the Public Option at the Federal and State Level** (State Health & Value Strategies)
  ○ Brief update piece from SHVS that gives an update to the status of public option legislation and proposals around the US as of July 2021.

★ **Hill Democrats Ask for Input On Public Option As CO, NV Consider Adoption** (Health Affairs):  
  ○ Katie Keith summarizes Murray/Pallone Letter, highlights recent research and commentary on public option proposals, and discusses the status of state public option proposals.

★ **How A Public Option Could Hold Down Costs** (Health Affairs): Ken Terry outlines possibilities for a public option and the imperative to reduce costs.

★ **Public Options Will Improve Health Equity Across the Country** (Center for American Progress)
  ○ A brief piece that argues the COVID-19 pandemic presents opportunities to enact public option legislation that must be focused on resolving the lack of health equity and the absence of affordable health care.

★ **Steps for Considering a 1332 Waiver** (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services)
  ○ A presentation shared by CMS to instruct states in their strategic steps to consider and apply for section 1332 waivers.

★ **Public Input on How to Design a Federal Public Option** (CHIRblog)
  ○ An in-depth review of stakeholder comments submitted in response to the congressional request for information on developing a federal public option.
Resources on Rates and Cost

★ Comparing Commercial and Medicare Professional Service Prices (HCCI)
  ○ Compares the negotiated rates paid by commercial payers for professional (clinician) services to the Medicare payments for the same services in different areas of the country.

★ Hospital Price Transparency Study (RAND)
  ○ A three-part study of hospital prices around the country to give employers access to the information of prices needed to be better-informed customers and do a better job shopping for health care on behalf of their employees.
  ○ RAND also developed an analysis of several models aimed at designing a public option.

Designing a Public Option That Would Reduce Health Care Provider Prices (Brookings Institution and University of Southern California)
  ○ The report focused on how to design a public option plan that would replicate Medicare’s ability to pay providers less than private plans but also successfully incentivize providers to participate.

★ Hospital Cost Tool (NASHP)
  ○ This tool provides data on hospitals’ costs, charges, and payer mix to inform their cost-containment discussions with hospitals.

Colorado-specific materials

★ At What Rate Do Hospitals Cover Costs? (Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, February 2019)

★ Hospital reimbursement formula overview (March 2019), which was largely used in the final 2021 Colorado Option legislation.

★ Which Hospitals Could Be Financially Affected by a Public Option? (Urban Institute)
  ○ Discusses how the introduction of a public option plan and the payment rates will impact hospital systems.
  ○ This is one piece of a much larger (six-part) analysis conducted by Urban Institute, which can be found here.