



*North Carolina*  
**State Health Plan**  
FOR TEACHERS AND STATE EMPLOYEES



**Legislative Update**  
*Board of Trustees Meeting*

March 22, 2013

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*A Division of the Department of State Treasurer*

# Legislative Update

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- Budget
- House and Senate Bills

# Budget Update

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- The NC General Assembly is considering the current budget request of the State Health Plan based on the Board approved plan design changes
  - Joint Appropriations Chairs
  - House State Personnel Committee
- Discussed Board approved plan design changes with 4.7% premium increase
- Shared 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter update with Fiscal Research
- Governor's budget includes \$181M for State Health Plan; matches the Board approved plan design changes based on 4.7% premium increase

# House and Senate Bills Update

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- In addition to the budget request there are several health care related bills that would impact the State Health Plan through:
  - Benefit requirements/restrictions
  - Eligibility rules that would impact who can enroll
  - Changes to provider and carriers
  - Other proposed legislation

## Benefit Requirement/Restrictions

# HB 18/SB 167: Youth Skin Cancer Prevention Act

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- **Bill Summary:** Requires a detailed prescription (treated condition and number of visits) for people under the age of 18 to use a tanning bed
- **House Changes:** Removes detailed prescription requirement and bans children under the age of 18 from using a tanning bed
- **Bill Status:** Passed the House and now in the Senate.

# HB 105/SB 98: Expands the Newborn Screening Program

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- Bill Summary:
  1. Adds Pulse Oximetry screening requirements to all newborn screenings
  2. Requires follow-up protocols for newborns identified as having congenital heart defects
- Bill Status: Passed the House, referred to Senate committee on Rules and Operations, not scheduled.

## SB 248: Ensure Patients Have the Right to Choose their Hearing Aid Specialist

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- **Bill Summary:** Requires Health Plans to treat hearing aid specialists in a manner similar to MH/SA, pharmacists, and physical therapy providers
- **Bill Status:** Referred to Senate Committee on Health Care, not scheduled.



## Eligibility Changes

# HB 232: State Health Plan Agency Bill

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- Bill Summary:
  1. Redefines and broadens eligibility rules based on ACA rules
  2. Clarifies the period in which members can enroll
  3. Removes the collection of certain penalties to employing units
  4. Provides clarifying language around care management and wellness
- Bill Status: Referred to House Committee on Insurance, not scheduled.

# SB 49: Allow Director of Admin to Enroll in the State Health Plan

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- **Bill Summary:** Would allow incoming Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts to enroll in the State Health Plan.
- **Bill Status:** Referred to Senate Committee on Pensions & Retirement and Aging, not scheduled.

## Provider and Carrier Related Legislation

# HB 177/SB 202: Amend Certificate of Need Laws

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- Bill Summary:
  1. Allows for the licensure of single physicians to run ASCs
  2. Removes barriers to obtaining a CON
  3. Reduces financial barriers to enter the ASC space
- Bill Status: Referred to House HHS committee, not scheduled.

# HB 247: “Most Favored Nations” bill

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- Bill Summary: Removes “most favored nations clause” and prohibits insurers from placing several restrictions on how providers negotiates with other insurers.
- Bill Status: Referred to House Committee on Judiciary, scheduled 3/27.

## Other Proposed Legislation

# SB 336: Diabetes Collaboration Bill

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- Detailed Bill Title: An Act Requiring the Division of Medical Assistance of the Department of Health and Human Services, the Division of Public Health of the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of the State Treasurer to Collaborate with One Another Regarding Activities and Programs Aimed at Diabetes Prevention, Control, and Care.
- Bill Summary:
  1. Requires the above agencies shall collaborate to identify goals and benchmarks while also developing individual entity plans to reduce the incidence of diabetes in North Carolina, improve diabetes care, and control complications associated with diabetes.
  2. Create reports to Joint Legislative committees on progress.
- Bill Status: Referred to Senate Committee on Health Care, not scheduled.



# SB 354: Revise Auditor's Responsibilities

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- **Bill Summary:** Replaces the State Auditor with the Attorney General on the Committee on Actuarial Valuation of Retired Employees' Health Benefits.
- **Bill Status:** Referred to Senate Committee on Pensions & Retirement and Aging, not scheduled.