

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HEALTH POLICY COMMISSION 50 Milk Street, 8th Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02109 (617) 979-1400

> DAVID M. SELTZ EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 6D, § 9, the Health Policy Commission (the HPC) will hold a public hearing regarding potential modification of the health care cost growth benchmark for the average growth in total health care expenditures for calendar year 2023:

Scheduled hearing date:

Wednesday, March 16, 2022, 12:00 PM

The HPC is an independent state agency established in the Commonwealth's landmark health care cost containment law, Chapter 224 of the Acts of 2012 (Chapter 224). Chapter 224 established the health care cost growth benchmark, a statewide target for the sustainable rate of growth of total health care expenditures (THCE). Chapter 224 also established the HPC to oversee health care system performance and directed the HPC to monitor statewide spending performance against the benchmark.

Consistent with this mandate, the HPC and the Center for Health Information and Analysis (CHIA) engage in an annual process to monitor health care spending growth relative to the benchmark, which is indexed to a projection of the Commonwealth's long-term economic growth. Under the framework set forth in Chapter 224, the HPC Board of Commissioners may annually modify the annual health care cost benchmark for the following calender year.

At the hearing, the HPC Board and members of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing will consider data, information, and testimony regarding whether modification of the health care cost growth benchmark is appropriate. The event will be virtual, and can be livestreamed for the public via the <u>HPC's YouTube channel</u>.

The HPC encourages interested parties to submit either verbal or written testimony and comments. Those wishing to provide testimony during the hearing may sign up to do so by emailing <u>hpc-testimony@mass.gov</u>. All submissions must include the sender's full name and address. Parties who are unable to submit electronic comments should mail submissions to Ashley Caunter, Government Affairs Manager, 50 Milk Street, 8th Floor, Boston, MA 02109. **All testimony and comments must be received by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 18, 2022.**

All written comments submitted to the HPC may be posted on the HPC's website and released in response to a request for public records.

Reminders about the date and time of the hearing and the video link will be available on the HPC's website, and sent to all individuals signed up for the HPC's mass mailing list. If you would like to sign up to receive emails from the HPC, please email <u>HPC-Info@mass.gov</u>.

Stuart H. Altman Chair