

(2) the need to subsidize health insurance for individuals with low income, in other financially difficult situations, or with health conditions that hinder the purchase of insurance in the commercial market;

(3) the use of incentives, such as a child and dependent care tax credit or an income tax surcharge, to encourage individuals to purchase health insurance, and what the level of the incentives would have to be to result in the increased purchase of health insurance;

(4) public and private strategies to educate individuals and employers about the importance of health coverage;

(5) whether individual responsibility should be accompanied by some form of employer responsibility;

(6) enforcement issues, including alternative approaches to the reporting and verification of health care coverage;

(7) potential reductions in inpatient and outpatient uncompensated care and government expenditures that may result from various personal responsibility provisions; and

(8) the need for religious exemptions from any proposed health care coverage requirement.

(c) On or before December 1, 2007, the Commission shall report the findings of its study, together with any recommendations, to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the Senate Finance Committee and the House Health and Government Operations Committee.

SECTION ~~5~~ 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, ~~except as provided in Section 4 of this Act,~~ this Act shall take effect July 1, 2007.

Approved by the Governor, May 17, 2007.

CHAPTER 614

(House Bill 588)

AN ACT concerning