

Appendix C. Operating Principles

Health Care Reform Coordinating Council –Principles for Council Operations

Approved by Council on May 6, 2010

Health reform offers a unique and historic opportunity to improve health care for all Marylanders.

1. Members of the Council should pursue the best policies for the agencies, organizations, and units of government they represent in the broader context of how reform will affect all Marylanders.
2. Members of the Health Care Reform Coordinating Council should ensure that all health care reform decisions made within their agencies are consistent with and in coordination with the work of the Council.
3. Members of the Council should engage in discussions with their federal counterparts about opportunities and options (including opportunities for grants, pilots, and demonstrations), and should utilize the Council to coordinate Maryland's response to these opportunities and options.
4. The Council should consider all implementation strategies that could promote the best long term interests of Maryland, including those that propose a significantly different health care delivery and regulatory framework.
5. Recognizing that the health delivery system is a public-private partnership, the Council's work will be guided by principles of transparency and inclusiveness. The Council will educate members of the public about how health reform may affect them and provide opportunities for participation and input into the work of the Council.
6. In making recommendations, members of the Health Care Reform Coordinating Council should be guided by criteria to include promotion of positive health outcomes, access, quality, equity, workforce development, administrative efficiency, and containing the rate of growth in the cost of public and private sector health care financing.