

# How DCBS regulates health insurance

#### **Our mission:**

Protect consumers and workers while supporting a positive business climate.

- Consumer protection includes:
  - Protecting access to fair insurance and financial products
  - Provide education, regulation, and consumer assistance
  - Assist with enrollment in health insurance plans that best fit health and financial needs

#### **DCBS Organizational Chart**



### The DCBS role in health care

#### Regulation of Commercial Health Plans

- Front-end review of health plans
- Drug price information
- Lowering costs through the Oregon Reinsurance Program
- Consumer protection and assistance through Consumer Advocacy team
- Compliance and enforcement

#### • Facilitator of the Health Insurance Marketplace

- Connect Oregonians to coverage through outreach and assistance
- Primary audience is people eligible for coverage through HealthCare.gov (additional work described in later slides)
- Limited regulatory role: contract with insurance companies to sell plans in Oregon on HealthCare.gov, and certify plans that meet standards

# DCBS regulation of health insurance

- We regulate
  - Individual health insurance plans (on and off Marketplace)
  - Group health insurance plans purchased by an employer (small or large)
  - Associations, trusts, and MEWAs
- What we do not regulate
  - Medicaid
  - Medicare (including Medicare Advantage)
  - Self-funded employer plans
- Rates for individual and small employer plans must be approved by DCBS before they can be offered.

# **Oregon's Health Insurance Markets**



# Oregon's individual health insurance market

- Through the end of 2019 open enrollment period:
  - 179,995 Oregonians enrolled
  - 120,000+ through the Marketplace (initial reports by carriers to DFR)
    - HealthCare.gov official numbers will be covered in Marketplace slide
  - 58,229 directly with a carrier
- Carriers and competition:
  - Seven carriers offering individual health benefit plans
  - Five of those offering through the Marketplace
  - Most counties have multiple options at least one plan available on and off the market

# Oregon private plans on HealthCare

.gov



# Oregon private plans from carriers



### Health benefit plan basics

- Oregon law aligns with ACA in many respects:
  - Guaranteed issue
  - Community rating
  - Pre-existing conditions
- Multi-session effort to further align them
  Senate Bill 250 (2019)

#### Health insurance rate review

- Rates for individual and small group health plans must be:
  - Actuarially sound
  - Sufficient and not excessive
  - Reasonable in relation to benefits offered
  - Based on reasonable administrative costs
- The Division of Financial Regulation reviews these rates before plans are sold in Oregon

# Health insurance rate review: process

- Recognized as a national model for transparency
- All rate filing documents and correspondence between the division and carriers is publicly available
- The division accepts public comments and holds a public hearing on all rate filings
- Key factors include geographic rating areas, age tobacco use, family size, and plan selection

# Average Annual Rate Increases (weighted)

Year	Individual	Small Group
2008	21.3%	13.4%
2009	14.9%	10.4%
2010	15.5%	11.6%
2011	9.0%	6.6%
2012	7.0%	4.1%
2013	7.1%	5.8%
2014	*	*
2015	5.7%	2.8%
2016	23.0%	0.0%
2017	27.0%	4.6%
2018	13.8%	8.2%
2019	7.3%	2.1%

\* No data – first year of ACA and rates are not comparable to prior years.

# Consumer education and advocacy

- The division's consumer outreach and advocacy team:
  - Educates consumers about their rights and handles complaints related to insurance and financial
  - Hosts and attends outreach events to educate consumers about insurance and financial services
  - Works with consumers and their insurance and financial services companies to resolve issues
  - DFR recovered nearly \$4 million for consumers in 2018

### **Compliance and enforcement**

- The compliance and enforcement teams:
  - Evaluate market conduct of licensed entities
  - Network adequacy review ensures provider networks' services are accessible without unreasonable delay
  - Investigate allegations of insurer violation of Oregon law
  - Recent Examples:
    - \$60,000 penalty for an insurer increasing premiums of 804 Medicare supplement policies
    - Insurer made 974 claim processing errors that led to more than \$240,000 in adjustments and specialized training for staff

### **Oregon Reinsurance Program**

- Part of House Bill 2391 (2017) to stabilize rates for consumers purchasing insurance on the individual market.
- Lowered rates by approximately 6% in 2018 and 2019
- Funding comes from one-time state funds, a portion of the premium assessment, and federal pass through funding under Oregon's approved 1332 wavier
- Funding from U.S. Department of Health and Human Services budget; not subject to shutdown

# Drug Price Transparency Program

- Established under House Bill 4005 (2018)
- Directs drug manufacturers to report on key data to DCBS
- DCBS must:
  - Hold hearing to collect information on drug prices
  - Collect public inquiries about the price of prescription drugs
  - Report on data, trends, and information to the Legislative Assembly by Dec. 15 each year
- Program rules had public hearing Jan. 22

- Marketplace division is the state-level partner to HealthCare.gov
- Oregon is unlike most states using HealthCare.gov
  - Fund, operate, and monitor outreach and enrollment-assistance here; don't rely on federal advertising or federal outreach programs
  - Actively contract with insurance companies to sell Oregon plans on HealthCare.gov; review and certify plans meeting state standards
- Outreach staff members travel the state, telling community groups and the public about coverage options
- At least one outreach staffer covers your district within their region

Enrollment by the end of the open enrollment period for each plan year



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- Marketplace division is home to two more programs
- Compact of Free Association Premium Assistance Program
  - Fills a health care gap faced by people in Oregon who are citizens of three Pacific islands and live here legally under a treaty called the Compact of Free Association (COFA)
  - These legal residents do not, under federal law, qualify for Medicaid, regardless of income
  - The program connects this population to coverage and subsidies through HealthCare.gov, and further subsidizes the coverage for COFA islanders with Medicaid-level incomes

- Oregon Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance (SHIBA) program
  - Assists and advocates for Medicare beneficiaries in Oregon
  - Operates a call center and network of volunteers to counsel Oregonians on choosing, understanding, and using a Medicare plan
  - Team members travel the state educating about Medicare coverage and Medicare fraud prevention

Questions and discussion