



#### • Actions Taken:

- At the Feb. 4, 2016, meeting of the Economic Affairs Interim Committee the members voted to request that the State Auditor's Office work with air ambulance providers, insurers, and selected others to propose solutions that they would report to the Committee. See the [letter](#) to the State Auditor's Office and an [Options](#) paper for possible solutions. Lien statutes are [here](#). [Letter](#) from the State Auditor's Office on working group.
- The Economic Affairs Interim Committee also voted to send letters to Montana's Congressional delegation to address air ambulance issues from a federal perspective. See a sample of that [letter](#).
- For Aug. 30-31 Meeting Materials click on this [link](#).
- The Economic Affairs Interim Committee voted on two committee bills: [LC 379](#) and [LC 380](#).

#### • Work Group Discussions --

**AUGUST** - Aug. 22 [Conference Call](#); Revised [Draft](#) / [Redline](#) Version

-- Insurer [Market Share](#) in Montana for 2015 (individual + small and large groups)

-- Website Prototype [update](#), Brochure [Update](#)

-- [Comment](#) from AMRG Counsel on Membership Reciprocity

-- Montana [Medicaid Claims](#) by Air Ambulance Provider

Aug. 8

-- [Agenda](#)

-- Revised Draft [Brochure](#)

-- [Draft](#) Legislation; Transparency [Website](#) Prototype

-- Bill Bryant "[What Have We Learned](#)" (presented 8/30/2016 at EAIC)

-- [Letter](#) from America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)

-- Comments: [Blue-Cross-Blue-Shield](#) of Montana; [MMIA](#), [MHA](#)

#### **Subworkgroup on transparency**

**Materials:** [Draft Brochure](#) (old) -- Transparency [Website Prototype](#)

#### **JULY**

-- [Agenda](#) July 8

-- Discussion [Draft](#) for Possible Legislation

-- Bill Bryant [Slides](#)

-- [Network Adequacy](#) re ERISA and Affordable Care Act DOL Guidelines via Bob Olsen

#### **MAY**

-- Work group [May discussion topics](#) ... [Airlift NW charges](#) ... [AirMethods letter](#) ... [Medicare data](#)

Bill Bryant: [handout](#) ... Suggested nonlegislative [option](#) -- Ambulance Provider [Experience Levels](#)

[Allegiance data](#) ... [BCBS data](#)... [Medicare / Medicaid rates](#) ... Proposed transparency document

-- Florida balance billing [overview](#) ... [Florida bill](#) on information/arbitration p. 7/ balance bills p. 10 ... [NY regulations](#) on surprise billing

- Northeast MT STAT Air [data](#) / [procedures](#)
- Maps for Flight Coverage: [A.L.E.R.T.](#), Benefis [Mercy Flight](#), St. V's [HELP Flight](#), ReachAir [B](#), [H](#), [US Life Flight](#), [Fixed Wing](#) Coverage, Northeast STAT Air [Montana](#) - [U.S.](#) maps
- [Wyoming court case](#)

#### **APRIL**

--Work group's [April agenda](#)

- [Allegiance](#) Air Ambulance Data
- [Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana](#) Air Ambulance Data
- Northeast MT Stat Air [Payor Mix](#)
- [Pacific Northwest Medicaid rates](#) for air ambulances
- North Dakota [court decision](#)
- Updated Survey [Table 1](#) (overview), [Table 2](#) (billing) [Table 3](#) (medical)

#### **MARCH**

- Work group [March discussion topics](#)

The following topics either have been addressed or were a part of the presentations to the Committee:

- Medical/Air Ambulance Considerations (parts of December and February meetings):
  - [Preemption](#) Concerns (also see GAO report, other opinions below)
  - [Types](#) of Air Ambulances (Bryant)
- Insurance / Payment Issues (listen to Feb. 4 meeting):
  - [NAIC Consumer Information](#) on Air Ambulances
  - Charity Care Guidelines - [NW MedStar](#), [A.L.E.R.T form](#) / [website](#)
  - Policy Notifications about Air Ambulance Balance Billing;
  - Memberships: Bryant [comment](#); Options in an Insurance Policy;
  - In-Network Options
  - National Council on Compensation Insurance [Comparison Data](#) for Workers' Compensation Costs for Air Medical Services
  - [Allegiance](#) Presentation
  - [Blue Cross Blue Shield](#) of Montana presentation
  - Sierra Health (Bryant) [Presentation](#), [Supplement](#)
- Hospital Issues (listen to December 2015 audio), including:
  - the Costs of Affiliation or Service;
  - [Montana Protocols](#) for Determining when to Transport or Transfer
  - Kalispell Regional Medical Center: [Background](#), [Membership Information](#)
- What Other States Are Doing
  - Arizona - See [Pricing Website](#); [Licensing Website](#)
  - North Dakota - [HB 1255](#) Requiring Primary Call Lists and [Complaints Filed](#) with the North Dakota Insurance Office
    - [Court Decision](#) regarding N.D. case
  - Washington [Plan](#) for Emergency Medical/Air Medical Services
  - [Alaska](#) Air Ambulance Registration / Membership Regulations **NEW**

The Economic Affairs Interim Committee sent a survey to air ambulance services licensed in Montana and requested a variety of information. At the December 2015 meeting the following materials were discussed or made available:

- Survey Response Summary. Revisions for May 2016: Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, Presentation

Other Material Given or Made Available to the Economic Affairs Committee (some of this material has been updated):

- National Air Ambulance Data 2012-2014 data **NEW**
- GAO 2010 Report
- Frequently Asked Questions - Affordable Care Act - see balance billing
- National Institutes of Health "Golden Hour" Study
- U.S. Dept. of Transportation (DOT) Helicopter Transport Guidelines
- Texas Attorney General Opinion on Air Ambulance Subscription Services
- HHS Office of Inspector General Opinion on Subscription Services
- Texas Letter Regarding Workers' Compensation; Court Decision
- Article on Oklahoma Class Action Lawsuit by Ambulance Users
- HJR 29 Background Information
- Air Ambulances Operating in Montana
- State Health Benefits Information
- Study Plan - See Work Plan Appendix C