

**DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY  
FY 2012-13 JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE HEARING AGENDA**

**Friday, November 18, 2011  
9:00 am – 10:30 am**

**10:10-10:25 COVERCOLORADO (SUZANNE BRAGG-GAMBLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, COVERCOLORADO)**

11. Please explain how health care reform is taking care of people enrolled in or eligible to enroll in CoverColorado?

SB11-200 created the Health Benefit Exchange Board that is presently creating the Exchange for Colorado. The Exchange is to open on January 1, 2014. At that time, the insurance carriers participating inside and outside the Exchange will not be able to deny coverage to individuals because of a health condition. When all Colorado citizens can purchase health insurance then the need for CoverColorado in its present form will go away.

Therefore, it is our plan to wind down operations sometime in 2014, after all the CoverColorado members have purchased health insurance coverage elsewhere. We are presently working on a communication and education campaign for CoverColorado members to provide information, guidance and assistance in utilizing the Exchange such that our members can transition their coverage away from CoverColorado with no gap in coverage.

12. Please explain how CoverColorado participants can transition to Getting US Covered and how they will transition to the insurance exchanges in 2014.

CoverColorado members may not transition from CoverColorado to GettingUSCovered immediately. Recall that one of the eligibility requirements for GettingUSCovered is to be uninsured for at least six months. The CoverColorado member would have to drop their CoverColorado coverage and be uninsured for at least six months before they could enroll in GettingUSCovered.

As stated above, CoverColorado will be working with members to help educate them on the Exchange and to assist getting them enrolled either in the Exchange, or outside the Exchange in 2014.

13. What happens to any funds left over at CoverColorado when the program winds down in 2014?

As they always do, the Board of CoverColorado is looking very closely at our projections of enrollment and cost for the next two plus years, in order to ensure the appropriate funding levels as we wind down the program.

There are many variables involved in these projections, such as whether members will utilize health care services more or less in reaction to the impending close of CoverColorado and the start of a new and unknown program; whether membership will drop as people decide to go without insurance for some period in anticipation of coverage under the Exchange; or increase in anticipation of something not yet proven. The CoverColorado board intends to work with the Legislature in the 2013 session to develop a contingency plan for any remaining funds (with the knowledge that such funds would be a combination of UPF, member-paid premiums and carrier-paid funds) or any needed funds to cover unanticipated cost.