Access to Health Insurance Restored in 19 Ohio Counties

Insurance Department and Five Health Insurers Announce Plan to Restore Health Insurance Coverage for 2018

Ohio Department of Insurance Director Jillian Froment has joined five major Ohio health care insurers to announce that health insurance options have been restored on the federal exchange in 19 Ohio counties following the withdrawal of other insurers earlier this year. Buckeye Health Plan, CareSource, Medical Mutual of Ohio, Molina Health Care of Ohio and Paramount Health Care are helping ensure coverage is available in these counties on the exchange in 2018. Announcements made earlier this year would have left Ohioans in 20 Ohio counties without access to health insurance. The department is working to restore coverage to the 20th county before insurers must enter contracts with the federal government in late September.

"Knowing 20 counties might not have access to health insurance on the exchange in 2018, our team went to work with the companies to find a way through the challenge, and together we have identified a solution," Froment said. "Ohio has long had a strong insurance system and once again our insurers stepped up at an important time for thousands of Ohioans, taking unprecedented action to provide access to health insurance for Ohioans who otherwise were without options."

Ohio Bill Would Give Immunity to Elderly Abuse Reports

New legislation aims to fight fraud targeting older Ohioans by requiring financial professionals to report suspected elder abuse and providing them with immunity for those reports. Currently, advisors who report elderly abuse can be sued by unhappy relatives. The bill also requires education for financial professionals on the mandatory reporting requirements.

Sen. Steve Wilson (R-Maineville) said the bill (SB 158) would make financial institutions, advisers, accountants, financial planners, notaries and real estate brokers mandatory reporters for suspected elder fraud. It would also provide them with immunity in cases where possible fraud was reported.

Financial professionals aren't currently required to report possible fraud to adult protective services, and could face lawsuits if they stop, say, an elderly person from withdrawing savings in a case of suspected abuse, Sen. Wilson said at a Statehouse news conference.
"I think we can make a difference," he said. "I think we can better protect the frail and the vulnerable senior citizens amongst us."

NAIFA-Ohio Members Lobby Congress!

When NAIFA-Ohio members visited Washington for the annual Congressional Conference, they brought their stories of how pending legislation and regulation will affect their clients back home on Main Street.

About 700 members representing all 50 states traveled to the Capitol May 22-24 for the annual event. The three main topics NAIFA members discussed with their senators and representatives were the Department of Labor fiduciary rule, health care reform and tax reform.

NAIFA members "are feeling the pressure in their businesses waiting for regulations or massive changes in legislative initiatives that will impact their businesses," said Diane Boyle, NAIFA senior vice president of government relations. "We need their stories to be told. We need them to tell their representatives what these changes mean to the neighbor and the constituent that everyone knows back home."

NAIFA-Ohio 2017 Annual Meeting and Leadership Conference

"Your passion, drive and determination can be dramatically increased when directed towards a focused goal."

Thank you to our event sponsor

"IFAPAC is your career protection insurance against federal and state legislative roadblocks that may hinder your ability to serve your clients."

2017 NAIFA-Ohio Membership Contest Winners: NAIFA-Northeast Ohio, NAIFA-Columbus and NAIFA-Dayton.
Columbus to Host 2021 National Insurance Conference

Ohio Department of Insurance Director Jillian Froment announced that Ohio's capital city has been selected by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) as the location for the organization's summer national meeting.

"We are honored to have the premier insurance regulatory organization choose our state and city for its conference," Froment said. "This selection is added confirmation of Columbus' national and international recognition as a hub of the insurance industry, and also serves as a nod to Ohio's leadership role as an industry regulator."

More than 2,000 insurance regulators, company representatives, consumer advocate groups and media members will converge over four-days to discuss critical insurance issues impacting the country. The NAIC last visited Columbus in 1902.

Since that last meeting here, Ohio has grown to the sixth largest U.S. insurance market and the 17th largest in the world.

The NAIC is the U.S. standard-setting and regulatory support organization created and governed by the chief insurance regulators from the 50 states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories.

Anthem to Pull Out of Ohio Exchanges in 2018; Dems, GOP Point Fingers at Each Other

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield announced Tuesday that it will not be offering coverage in Ohio's Health Insurance Marketplace in 2018, citing uncertainty in the markets created under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Reaction to the announcement was swift, with figures on both sides of the aisle pointing fingers at the other. Republicans said the reason was because of onerous regulations created under the ACA, while Democrats blamed uncertainty they said was created by President Donald Trump's administration.

Anthem currently has about 67,000 members on Ohio's health insurance exchange. It said it will stop offering coverage through the exchange next year. Individuals with insurance through their employers or Medicare or Medicaid won't be affected.

Save the Date!

Register now and join us in Orlando!
Become a "Trusted Legislative Source"

Admittedly, most state legislators aren’t very familiar with the intricacies of insurance. When considering such proposed laws they rely for information on insurance agents and financial advisors they know...or, lacking a personal acquaintance with one, they don’t!

To encourage NAIFA-Ohio members to establish no-cost relationships with their elected state legislators, NAIFA-Ohio offers members the “Triple Play" program.

The "Triple Play" program allows individuals to take up to a $50 state tax credit (or $100 on a joint return) for personal contributions made to the campaigns of state office holders. Our IFAPAC Political Action Committee will match the member’s contribution and send a letter to the candidate asking him/her to use the contributing NAIFA-Ohio member as a sounding board for insurance legislation.

To participate: Send a copy of your personal check written to a candidate for state office to the NAIFA-Ohio Office at 17 S. High St., Suite. 200, Columbus, OH 43215 or e-mail naifaohio@assnoffices.com. We’ll send a matching contribution to that candidate, along with a letter indicating that it’s a direct result of YOUR contribution... and suggesting that the recipient use YOU as a source

The best part? Participation in the “Triple Play” program COSTS YOU NOTHING! Because the amount is a tax credit (as opposed to a deduction), you either pay it to the state in taxes... or raise your local visibility by contributing it to a candidate for the Ohio Senate, House of Representatives or other state office.

Donate Today!

Be Part of the NAIFA-Ohio/OIA Workers' Compensation Program

Enrollment is now open for the NAIFA Ohio/OIA's workers' compensation group rating program! OIA, which administers the program, makes it easy to give your clients access to support, stability and savings. Along with our trusted partner, CompManagement, OIA can help guide you through best methods for offering the program and closing the business.

Read more
The mission of the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors-Ohio is to improve the business environment, enhance the professional skills and promote the ethical conduct of agents and others engaged in insurance and related financial services who assist the public in achieving financial security and independence.