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2023 Requested Commercial Health Insurance Rates Have Been Submitted to OHIC for Review

CRANSTON, R.I. (June 10th, 2022) – The Office of Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC) today released the individual, small, and large group market premium rates requested by Rhode Island’s insurers. The requests were filed as part of OHIC’s rate review and approval process (for rates effective in 2023). Tables 1 – 3, below, summarize the insurers’ requests for 2023. Two insurers, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Rhode Island (BCBSRI) and Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island (NHPRI) filed plans to be sold on the individual market to persons who do not receive insurance through their employer. In addition to BCBSRI and NHPRI, UnitedHealthcare and Tufts Health Plan filed smallgroup market plans. Five insurers (BCBSRI, UnitedHealthcare, Tufts Health Plan, Aetna, and Cigna) filed large group rates.

Requested average rate increases ranged from 6.8% to 9.6% in the individual market. In the small group market, carriers requested average increases ranging from 9.2% to 12.3%. Large group market requested average rate changes range from 7.0% to 13.4%. Key factors influencing the rate requests for 2023 are expected increases in the cost of health care services due to increases in utilization, provider prices, and pharmaceutical costs. OHIC will review all pricing assumptions, administrative charges, and other information to assess the reasonability of the premium requests by each insurer. The Commissioner may approve as filed, modify, or reject an insurer’s rate filing consistent with powers vested in the Office by the Rhode Island General Laws.

**Table 1: Proposed Individual Market Requests for 2023
 Overall Weighted Average Rate Change**

Insurer	Enrollment (March 2022)	2023 – Requested
BCBSRI	17,635	9.6%
NHPRI	25,023	6.8%
Total / Wt. Avg.	42,658	8.0%

**Table 2: Proposed Small Group Market Requests for 2023
Overall Weighted Average Rate Change**

Insurer	Enrollment (March 2022)	2023 - Requested
BCBSRI	40,943	11.7%
NHPRI	1,875	9.3%
UnitedHealthcare (HMO)	606	12.3%
UnitedHealthcare (PPO)	2,067	10.8%
Tufts Health Plan (HMO)	1,205	9.2%
Tufts Health Plan (PPO)	737	10.0%
Total / Wt. Avg.	47,433	11.5%

**Table 3: Proposed Large Group Market Requests for 2023
Overall Weighted Average Rate Change**

Insurer	Enrollment (March 2022)	2023 - Requested
BCBSRI	63,300	7.0%
UnitedHealthcare	12,471	11.3%
Tufts Health Plan HMO	2,911	10.4%
Tufts Health Plan PPO	3,248	10.3%
Aetna	69	13.4%
Cigna	656	8.5%
Total / Wt. Avg.	82,655	7.9%

“My office is committed to rigorously reviewing these proposed rate increases to ensure that the rates that are ultimately approved are in the public interest and actuarially sound,” said Health Insurance Commissioner Patrick M. Tighe. He continued, “These proposed rates demonstrate the continued need for shared accountability by insurers and providers to address the underlying costs of health care in order to promote affordability for Rhode Island consumers and businesses.”

OHIC will accept public comment on the proposed rates through July 12th, 2022. Comments may be submitted in writing via email to cory.king@ohic.ri.gov or via postal mail to

Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner
ATTN: Cory King, Chief of Staff
1511 Pontiac Avenue
Building #69
Cranston, RI 02920

OHIC will also hear public comment at a virtual town hall to be held on Thursday July 7th, 2022 from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM. The virtual town hall will be held on the Zoom platform at the following link:

Topic: Rate Review Virtual Town Hall

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89873203575>

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Webinar ID: 898 7320 3575

International numbers available: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/kcuC3nPUYm>

OHIC will also review each health insurer's coverage and benefit contracts with consumers to ensure that plans sold in Rhode Island meet all benefit, access, and member cost sharing standards required by state and federal law. OHIC's final decision to approve, modify, or reject the proposed rates is expected in mid-to-late August.

For more detailed information on the filings please visit: <https://ohic.ri.gov/regulatory-review/rate-review>