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**2023 Commercial Health Insurance Rates Have Been Approved with Modifications**

**CRANSTON, R.I. (September 21, 2022)** – Commercial health insurance premiums for 2023 have been approved by the State of Rhode Island’s Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner (OHIC), with modifications. As a result of these changes, Rhode Islanders will save \$22,880,000 in 2023 compared to what the commercial health insurers requested. In the months since the rate filings were submitted in May, OHIC has reviewed the medical expense trend assumptions, administrative charges, and margin requests for each insurer. Additionally, OHIC staff reviewed the benefit coverage documents for each health plan to ensure compliance with state and federal laws. The approved premiums are predominantly driven by the escalating cost of health care—the increasing unit prices and use of health care goods and services.

In addition to OHIC’s review, for the first time this year, the Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office (RIAG) conducted an independent review of rate filings in all markets. The RIAG submitted comments and actuarial reports on each rate filing to OHIC. OHIC also solicited and considered public comment during this year’s review process.

Tables 1 – 3, below, summarize the approved rates for 2023. The rate change approved by OHIC is shown along with the recommendations of the RIAG’s consulting actuaries and the rate change requested by the insurers in the May filings.

**Table 1: Final Individual Market Rates for 2023<sup>1</sup>**  
**Overall Weighted Average Rate Change**

Insurer	Enrollment (March 2022)	OHIC Approved	RIAG Actuary Recommended	Insurer Requested
BCBSRI	17,635	3.1%	1.4%	9.6%
NHPRI	25,023	8.2%	9.8%	6.8%

<sup>1</sup> This year BCBSRI’s rate filing in the individual market, known as the Direct Pay filing, was subject to an administrative hearing in June, per the terms of RI Gen Laws § 27-19-6 & § 27-20-6. The RIAG participated in the hearing process.

**Table 2: Final Small Group Market Rates for 2023  
Overall Weighted Average Rate Change**

Insurer	Enrollment (March 2022)	OHIC Approved	RIAG Actuary Recommended	Insurer Requested
BCBSRI	40,943	9.7%	9.5%	11.7%
NHPRI	1,875	6.8%	5.8%	9.7%
UnitedHealthcare (HMO)	606	5.0%	9.2%	12.3%
UnitedHealthcare (PPO)	2,067	3.5%	7.7%	10.7%
Tufts Health Plan (HMO)	1,205	7.4%	7.2%	9.2%
Tufts Health Plan (PPO)	737	8.2%	7.4%	10.0%

**Table 3: Final Large Group Market Rates for 2023  
Overall Weighted Average Rate Change**

Insurer	Enrollment (March 2022)	OHIC Approved	RIAG Actuary Recommended	Insurer Requested
BCBSRI	63,300	5.9%	5.7%	7.0%
UnitedHealthcare	12,471	8.0%	11.3%	11.7%
Tufts Health Plan HMO	2,911	8.8%	10.4%	10.4%
Tufts Health Plan PPO	3,248	8.9%	10.3%	10.3%
Aetna	69	5.4%	5.1%	13.4%
Cigna	656	5.7%	8.5%	8.5%

“My office has conducted a thorough review of the rate filings, public input, and considered the actuarial recommendations provided by the Rhode Island Attorney General’s Office across all markets,” said Health Insurance Commissioner Patrick M. Tigue. He continued, “As I said when my office published the requested increases in June, the 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. I would like to thank the Attorney General for the participation of his office in this year’s rate review process and those members of the public who submitted comments.”

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

### **Rate Review Resources**

[2023 Premium Approved and Requested Summary](#)

[OHIC Actuarial Reports](#)

[Attorney General Actuarial Reports](#)

[Direct Pay Public Comments](#) and [Group Market Public Comments](#)

[BCBSRI Direct Pay Decision](#)