

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass
Vote:	10 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Bruun, Cannon, Dembrow, Garrett, Harker, Kennemer, Kotek, Maurer, Thompson, Greenlick
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	5/15, 5/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Authorizes insurer to pay cash dividends to enrollees who participate in an approved program to promote healthy behaviors. Defines healthy behaviors.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Definition of healthy behavior
- The development of collaborative efforts with community-based programs and insurance companies
- Economic incentive for small employers
- To develop creative incentives for enrollees to change lifestyle
- Improved lifestyles and reduction of high-risk behavior can reduce health care costs

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, lung disease, stroke, and diabetes are among the most serious threats to the nation's health. More than 90 million Americans live with these or other chronic diseases. Unlike many acute illnesses, chronic conditions are generally not caused by infectious agents. Instead, the development of chronic diseases is largely the result of behavioral factors. While genetics and exposure to environmental toxins may influence the development of chronic disease, behavior is a primary contributor to chronic disease for most people.

Healthy behaviors are generally defined as participation in constructive behaviors that encourage fitness, healthy eating and other activities that are beneficial to good health. Schools, employers and the health care sector are implementing programs to promote health behaviors and prevent chronic diseases.