

Commission to Study Health Insurance Pooling

June 4, 2026

Meeting Notes

- I. Welcome**
- II. Phase 2 – Research and Analysis (April – July)**
 - a. Data Acquisition Plan – Segal demonstration**
 - b. Confirmation of Data Contacts**
- III. Discussion**
- IV. Assigned Tasks and Adjournment**

After committee members were welcomed, DBM representatives outlined the mandatory Data Use Agreement process for all participating entities. Next, Segal demonstrated the planned Smartsheet project management platform for data collection.

While the digital tool provides a solid foundation for the process, the committee noted two key challenges during the subsequent discussion. First, they addressed the practical logistics of handling small groups that operate entirely without digital data. Second, members raised questions about overall participation rates, discussing whether the final study results would be skewed if groups not interested in pooling choose to withhold their data. Because data contribution to the study is voluntary rather than mandated, the committee debated how to mitigate the risk of non-participation. Members agreed that if groups not interested in pooling withhold their data, the final analysis will be skewed. To address this, the committee discussed outreach strategies to convince all parties to participate. Ensuring a complete and accurate dataset was identified as a top priority, specifically to prevent the legislature from moving forward with policy decisions based on inaccurate or unrepresentative data.

The session concluded with an agreement to cancel the June 25th meeting to allow sufficient time for the data collection process.

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

- **June 4** – in-person
- **June 25** – **cancelled**
- **July 16** – in-person
- **August 6** – virtual
- **August 27** – in-person
- **September 17** – virtual
- **October 8** – in-person
- **October 29** – virtual
- **November 19** – in-person

Following the meeting's adjournment, additional localized data was contributed to support the committee's objective. Pamela Shaw submitted the results of the 2026 Maryland County Benefit Survey for review. Additionally, Dan Gottheimer forwarded comprehensive health rate information for Maryland public schools by county, which was tracked and compiled by the Maryland State Education Association (MSEA) for the years 2025 and 2026.