

Racial Equity Impact Statement for OAR 409-070-xxxx changes

Health Care Market Oversight Program

August 2024

This document includes the racial equity impact statement regarding how the amendments of rules (OAR 409-070-0000 through 409-070-0085) will affect racial equity in Oregon. This document also describes the outreach and engagement to invite those community members affected by the rule to participate in the Rules Advisory Committee (RAC).

I. Equity Impact Statement

The proposed rule changes for the program may affect all communities in the state who access health care services. The Health Care Market Oversight program is designed to improve health equity in Oregon.

II. Background - Process and Planning

Identifying Affected Communities, including Tribal Governments to form the RAC:

The Health Care Market Oversight program reviews proposed health care business deals to determine the impacts on equity, cost, quality, and access. The proposed rule changes for the program may affect all communities in the state and are intended to improve health equity. The program was designed with equity at its core and analyzing the equity impacts of proposed health care business deals is a central function of the program.

These individuals and communities are affected by this rule change:

- People who face barriers to getting the health care they need;
- People who experience worse health outcomes and/or quality of health care compared to the population overall;
- People who experience high health care costs, including those with high co-pays, deductibles, premiums, and other out-of-pocket payments;
- People who receive lower wages from their employer because of their employer paying high health care costs for employees.

Identifying how program staff will engage community members:

Program staff sent a RAC invitation to the GovDelivery subscribers, many of whom represent health care entities, community-based organizations, and consumer advocacy organizations.

Staff created a form to collect race, ethnicity, age, and other demographic information from RAC members. We will use this information to assess how RAC members represent affected communities and priority populations.

Communication plan and addressing feedback:

The GovDelivery message inviting individuals to join the RAC stated, “For accessibility questions or requests, please contact us at least two business days prior to the meeting.” If we receive any requests, program staff will adjust the materials and meeting accordingly.

Program staff will compile feedback from the RAC meeting and include feedback, as appropriate, in future edits to the rules. We will also notify individuals when the rules hearing will occur and when the final rules are posted on the Secretary of State’s website.

Remediation plan:

If negative impacts to racial equity are identified by program staff or community members, we will document those issues and draft future rule changes that aim to mitigate negative impacts.

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