

Prescription Drug Affordability Board

Annual Report

Second Substitute Senate Bill 5532; Section 8; Chapter 153; Laws of 2022

December 15, 2022

Legislative summary

The Washington State Health Care Authority (HCA) is directed by [RCW 70.405.080](#) to submit an annual report on the actions and activities of the Prescription Drug Affordability Board (PDAB) during the past year:

“By December 15, 2022, and annually thereafter, the board shall provide a comprehensive report to the legislature detailing all actions the board has taken in the past year, including any rules adopted by the authority pursuant to chapter 153, Laws of 2022, establishing any processes, such as the methodology for the upper payment limit, the list of drugs identified in RCW 70.405.030, the drugs the board completed an affordability review of and any determinations of whether the drug had led or will lead to excess costs, and the establishment of any upper payment limits.”

Prescription Drug Affordability Board actions

Since [Second Substitute Senate Bill 5532](#) became law on June 9, 2022, HCA has worked to establish the PDAB and an agency program to support their reviews, assessments, and actions. HCA has hired one staff and is actively hiring five more to support management, research, data analysis, coordination, and publications. HCA initiated the rulemaking process by filing a CR101, Notice of Inquiry under WSR 22-15-035, to create the foundational rules necessary for the PDAB to operate.

As of the publication of this report, the final rules have not been published or enacted.

As of the publication of this report, the PDAB has not held any meetings or taken any actions.

Next steps

HCA is actively working to establish the PDAB and an agency program to support their work as described in Chapter 70.405 RCW. Work is underway to identify, recruit, and appoint candidates for positions as members on the PDAB. HCA expects current rulemaking to be finalized and posted as a CR-103 in 2023 and for those rules to be effective 90 days after the next legislative session in July 2024. HCA plans to convene the first PDAB meeting in 2023.

Contact

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