

# **Blue Ribbon Commission on the Future of MaineCare**

## **◆ Commission Duties ◆**

### **Overall charge**

- Study the MaineCare program and make recommendations to improve the quality, adequacy, effectiveness and delivery of MaineCare services in the most cost-effective manner possible
- Recommendations must be geared toward ensuring the sustainability of MaineCare over time and must include various options for providing coverage for persons in need of health care services

### **Specific Duties**

- Review and make recommendations on the extent to which MaineCare is meeting its current and future responsibilities
- Review the effectiveness of various models for financing and providing health care coverage for low-income and vulnerable populations
- Study and report on MaineCare eligibility levels, service benefits, expenditures and other factors affecting program costs; estimate future program costs taking into account relevant factors including demographics, economic variables and policy initiatives
- Review and summarize the economic effect of MaineCare and its role in maintaining Maine's health care provider network
- Provide an analysis of relevant changes in federal health care funding and policy and how such changes will affect MaineCare
- Review and make recommendations regarding actions taken by the federal Medicaid Commission

### **Other Key Information and Requirements**

- Duties outlined above were drafted when this was a two-year study; subsequent amendment in the Senate changed the study duration from two years to one year, but did not adjust the duties
- Authorized to meet 4 times in 2005
- Required to consult stakeholders and health care and medical organizations for information and assistance in gathering information related to Commission duties
- Required to submit to the Legislative Council a work plan and proposed budget, within 10 days of first meeting; may seek outside funds to fund costs other than the authorized per diem and expenses
- Required to submit a report with findings and recommended legislation by December 7, 2005