Interagency Working Group on Health Care Quality

Summary: Requires the President to convene an Interagency Working Group on Health Care Quality comprised of Federal agencies to collaborate on the development and dissemination of quality initiatives consistent with the national strategy.

Next steps:
- Not later than December 31, 2010 – First annual report due to Congress from the Working Group (deadline not met)
- Not later than December 31, 2011 – Second annual report due to Congress from the Working Group

Long summary:
Sec. 3012. Interagency Working Group on Health Care Quality.
The President is required to convene a working group of Federal agencies to collaborate, consult, and coordinate on fulfilling the national quality improvement strategy and priorities, to avoid duplication of efforts, and to assess alignment of public and private quality efforts. The working group must submit annual reports to Congress on progress of those agencies and recommendations of the group to meet goals.

Legislative text:
SEC. 3012. INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP ON HEALTH CARE QUALITY.
(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall convene a working group to be known as the Interagency Working Group on Health Care Quality (referred to in this section as the “Working Group”).
(b) GOALS.—The goals of the Working Group shall be to achieve the following:
(1) Collaboration, cooperation, and consultation between Federal departments and agencies with respect to developing and disseminating strategies, goals, models, and timetables that are consistent with the national priorities identified under section 399HH(a)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (as added by section 3011).
(2) Avoidance of inefficient duplication of quality improvement efforts and resources, where practicable, and a streamlined process for quality reporting and compliance requirements.
(3) Assess alignment of quality efforts in the public sector with private sector initiatives.
(c) COMPOSITION.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—The Working Group shall be composed of senior level representatives of—
(A) the Department of Health and Human Services;
(B) the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services;
(C) the National Institutes of Health;
(D) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;
(E) the Food and Drug Administration;
(F) the Health Resources and Services Administration;
(G) the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality;
(H) the Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology;
(I) the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration;
(J) the Administration for Children and Families;
(K) the Department of Commerce;
(L) the Office of Management and Budget;
(M) the United States Coast Guard;
(N) the Federal Bureau of Prisons;
(O) the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration;
(P) the Federal Trade Commission;
(Q) the Social Security Administration;
(R) the Department of Labor;
(S) the United States Office of Personnel Management;
(T) the Department of Defense;
(U) the Department of Education;
(V) the Department of Veterans Affairs;
(W) the Veterans Health Administration; and
(X) any other Federal agencies and departments with activities relating to improving health care quality and safety, as determined by the President.

(2) CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR.—
(A) CHAIR.—The Working Group shall be chaired by the Secretary of Health and Human Services.
(B) VICE-CHAIR.—Members of the Working Group, other than the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall serve as Vice Chair of the Group on a rotating basis, as determined by the Group.
(d) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than December 31, 2010, and annually thereafter, the Working Group shall submit to the relevant Committees of Congress, and make public on an Internet website, a report describing the progress and recommendations of the Working Group in meeting the goals described in subsection (b).