



Delaware Health Care Commission (DHCC) Meeting
August 7, 2025
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Meeting Attendance and Minutes

Commission Members Present In-Person: Dr. Neil Hockstein, Dr. Kathy Matt, Dr. John Powell, Cheri Clarke Doyle, Cabinet Secretary Josette Manning (DHSS), Nick Moriello, and Mike Quaranta

Commission Members Attending Virtually: Insurance Commissioner Trinidad Navarro (DOI) and Dr. Stephanie Traynor (DSCYF)

Commission Members Absent: Cabinet Secretary Michael Smith (DOF) and Dr. Jan Lee

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Neil Hockstein, Chair

Health Care Commission Staff: Elisabeth Massa (Executive Director), Latoya Wright (Manager of Statistics and Research), Colleen Cunningham (Social Services Senior Administrator), and Sheila Saylor (Public Health Treatment Program Administrator)

Anchor Location:

Department of Health and Human Services (DHSS)
Herman M. Holloway Sr. Health and Social Services Campus
The Chapel
1901 N. DuPont Highway
New Castle, DE 19720

CALL TO ORDER

After confirming a quorum, Dr. Neil Hockstein (DHCC Chair) called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

BOARD BUSINESS

ACTION ITEM: Approve June 5, 2025, Meeting Minutes

Dr. Hockstein asked the commissioners if there were no objections, a motion to approve the June 5, 2025, meeting minutes. Mike Quaranta made a motion to approve, and Dr. Kathy Matt second. No objections were made, and the commissioners approved the minutes. The minutes are available on the [DHCC website](#).

153rd General Assembly Update

Dr. Hockstein shared today's meeting was to include an update on the recently passed FY 26 budget, however, with the General Assembly headed back into session this August regarding property tax issues, Department of Finance Secretary Michael Smith is not available to present. The FY 26 presentation will be deferred to a future meeting.

Dr. Hockstein introduced the DHSS policy team, Alexa Scoglietti and James Berryhill, to present an update on the 153rd General Assembly and review some of the important healthcare legislation that passed and did not pass.

Mr. Berryhill introduced himself as the Legislative Director at DHSS and Ms. Scoglietti introduced herself as the DHSS Chief Policy Advisor. Mr. Berryhill shared their presentation would focus on bills that were health care practice related.

First, Mr. Berryhill highlighted the passage of Prior Authorization Reforms: SB 12 and HB 212

- Legislation is part of the Delaware Pre-Authorization Reform Act of 2025
- Sets turnaround times: 3 days (electronic), 5 days (manual), 24–48 hours (urgent).
- Extends validity to 90 days and limits one authorization per episode of care.
- Cheri Doyle and Mr. Quaranta asked clarifying questions about the legislation.
- Dr. Hockstein added the prior auth legislation was a great improvement, but there is also an opportunity for further improvement. He asked the policy team what an "indeterminate" fiscal note is. Ms. Scoglietti shared it is when the fiscal impact cannot be calculated or determined at the time and has no impact on the enactment of the law – it will have to be funded.
- Commissioner Navarro added the legislation was not quite as robust as hoped, but waiting to see its impact and if it will need to be tweaked.
- Dr. Hockstein thanked the Department of Insurance (DOI) for being an incredible partner in this legislative session impacting meaningful reform.

Mr. Berryhill discussed the PBM/Insurer Clawback reform legislation (HS1 to HB 212). Ms. Doyle asked what was the impetus for this legislation? Commissioner Navarro shared DOI listened to pharmacists and local providers. It was a way to level the playing field and make practices more viable.

Mr. Berryhill provided an update on two bills regarding health workforce data:

SB 122, Healthcare Workforce Data Collection:

- Division of Professional Regulation (DPR) to collect workforce data during licensing/renewals (e.g., location, specialty).
- DHCC and DPH gain access for planning, research, and policy
- Dr. Hockstein added this bill was a great moment for the DHCC led by Commissioner Kathy Matt and Nichole Moxley
- Bill passed

HB 231, Uniform Health Data Modernization

- Did not pass due to lack of time
- Legislation would strengthen reporting across hospitals and nursing homes

Next, Mr. Berryhill highlighted SB 109, Social Worker Licensure Compact passed, and SB 147, Dentist and Dental Hygienist Compact, did not pass. Regarding SB 109, Mr. Quaranta asked about telehealth within state borders. Mr. Berryhill commented he would need to research Mr. Quaranta's inquiry. Dr. Hockstein commented this legislation, and others bills previously mentioned support the DHCC's strategy of import talent and creating access for Delaware patients.

Next, Ms. Scoglietti shared a summary on the End-of-Life Options Act (HB 140), which would allow terminally ill, mentally capable adults to request self-administered life-ending medication under strict safeguards. The legislation is effective January 1, 2026, pending regulations.

Ms. Scoglietti provided a summary on Shield Law Expansion (HB 205). The Act extends 2022 reproductive-care protections to *all* lawful healthcare services and shields providers from out-of-state civil/criminal actions and insurer discrimination.

The 153rd General Assembly Update [presentation](#) is available on the DHCC website.

Strategy Session

Dr. Hockstein discussed the upcoming DHCC Retreat planned for November 7 in the afternoon. Location in Dover to-be-determined. Dr. Hockstein proposed the Retreat brings together important DHCC partners – State agencies, legislators, etc. Looking at the calendar, it may be best in the future to have the Retreat following the conclusion of the legislative session. The Retreat would be a way to build relationships. Dr. Hockstein asked commissioners for their thoughts on structuring the Retreat as a working session.

- Nick Moriello was in an agreement and supported the DHCC being a go-to resource for legislators.
- Commissioner Navarro shared DOI meets with legislators and industry early in the process.
- Mr. Quaranta was also supportive of the Dr. Hockstein's proposal for the Retreat. He added the DHCC should be specific and prioritize within the access, cost, quality, and provider well being buckets. It would also be helpful going into the Retreat to reach out to the audience players in the subject areas and solicit papers and thoughts ahead of time to afford the commissioners come to the Retreat with an understanding.
- Secretary Manning agreed with what has been said so far, and in the past, the Retreat brainstorming has been so broad. She supported strengthening collaboration between the DHCC and DHSS policy/legislative teams to track and influence relevant bills.
- Mr. Moriello commented the passage of SB 122, Healthcare Workforce Data Collection, is an example of an initiative that advanced that was very specific.

- Dr. Hockstein discussed the Commission strategy timing – short, intermediate, and long term. He posed the question - What are ways to move the needle for different group of constituencies? He advocated the DHCC needs a comprehensive package.
- Dr. Matt commented one thing that is not done enough in Delaware is looking at what other states are doing. Delaware is not the only state having these challenges around access, cost, quality, and provider wellbeing. She advocated, what is the vision and goal and how to execute and to bring in the stakeholders and those on the front lines to learn more. Then, work with the legislature.
- Dr. Hockstein shared Ms. Scoglietti is an incredible resource and does a great job researching work done in other states.
- Dr. Powell added in addition to what other states are doing, he shared he attend the Rural Health Conference in June and was impressed with the volume of services non-profit partners have and asked how the State can partner.
- Mr. Quaranta added at the November Retreat, the DHCC could look at regulatory pieces due to the short time frame to prepare something for the legislative session that starts January 2026. If the next Retreat is in July 2026, there will be more time to prepare, not constrained by a legislative session.

Public Comment and Adjourn

The next Commission meeting is scheduled for October 2. Dr. Hockstein will have another commissioner chair as he will not be attending the meeting due to Yom Kippur. Dr. Hockstein also thanked and recognized Secretary Manning for her partnership and her many years of service as she is leaving her cabinet post at the end of September.

Mr. Moriello shared August is National Wellness Month, National Immunization Awareness Month, and National Breastfeeding Awareness Month.

Dr. Hockstein opened the meeting to public comment. Chris Frazer, Westside Family Healthcare, shared it was National Health Center Week. He thanked the members of the Commission for supporting the mission of the federally qualified health centers in Delaware.

Dr. Hockstein asked for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Navarro made a motion, seconded by Dr. Powell. All commissioners were in favor, and the meeting adjourned.

PUBLIC ATTENDEES

In-Person:

James Berryhill	DHSS
Alexa Scoglietti	DHSS

Virtual

Susan Jennette	Department of Insurance
Julie Devlin	DHSS
Nichole Moxley	DHSS
Lori James	
Jessica Luff	DOI

Lori Ann Rhoads	Medical Society of Delaware
Tomi Morris	
Delaney McGonegal	MACH
Richa Shah	United Medical
Chris Haas	DOI
Chris Fraser	Westside Family Healthcare
Lisa Gruss	Medical Society of Delaware
Mark Thompson	Medical Society of Delaware
Cristine Vogel	DOI
Sequoia Rent	DHSS
Nora Hoban	
Bria Greenlee	
Amy Desmond	YMCA
Christina Bryan	Delaware Healthcare Association
Sherry Nykiel	DHSS
Nicole Freedman	Morris James
Jules Villecco	Delaware Healthcare Association
Steven Costantino	DHSS
Christina Miller	DOI
Wayne Smith	
Tanisha Merced	DOI
Suzanne Milewski	OMB