

# Legislative Update

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# The external environment

- ▶ Cascade Care Workgroup input
  - ▶ Standard plans
  - ▶ Cascade Care tools
- ▶ 2024 federal election outcomes and possible impacts
  - ▶ Affordable Care Act
  - ▶ Exchange marketplaces and Medicaid
  - ▶ CMS waivers
- ▶ State budget landscape



# State election outcomes

**Senate (49 seats)**

Democrats (30 seats)

Republicans (19 seats)

**House (98 seats)**

Democrats (59 seats)

Republicans (39 seats)

# 2025 session focus



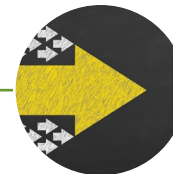
New Governor



New Insurance Commissioner



New Attorney General



New Agency Secretaries

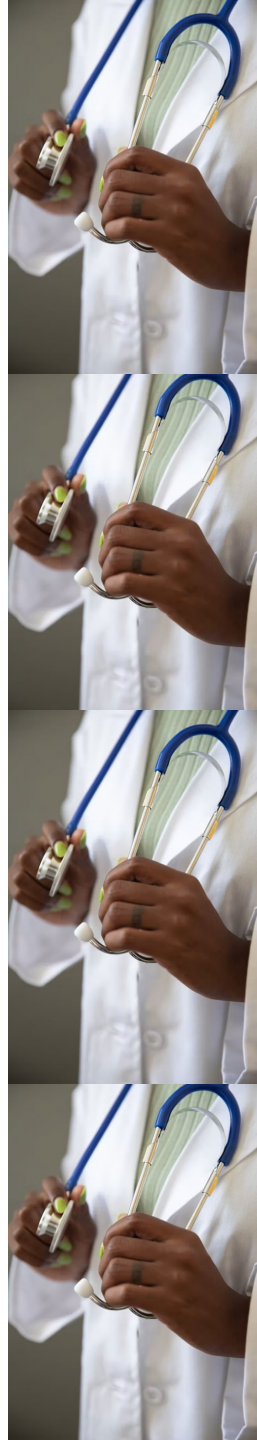
- DOH, DSHS, HCA



New Health Care and Fiscal Committee Members

# 2025 session focus - continued

- ▶ **Drive affordability – Cascade Care Savings**
  - ▶ Problem
    - ▶ Rising health care premiums
    - ▶ Uncertainty of enhanced premium tax credits
    - ▶ **Cascade Care Savings only funded through plan year 2025**
  - ▶ Solution
    - ▶ **Continue Cascade Care Savings and modestly enhance funding**
    - ▶ Disproportionate impact on,
      - ▶ Rural residents
      - ▶ Communities of color
      - ▶ People transitioning from Medicaid to commercial coverage



# 2025 session focus - continued

## Contain the cost of health care



Reference-based pricing



Shift resources to primary care



Organizational ownership transparency

# 2025 session focus - continued

Protect equity  
gains -  
noncitizen  
health coverage



Access to health and dental  
plans on Washington  
Healthplanfinder

DACA recipients

Apple Health Expansion

# Other issues on the horizon

- ▶ Simplifying plan choice – standard plans
- ▶ Sharpening Cascade Care tools – public option





Thank you!

Any issue missing?

Does the Board  
agree with these  
recommendations?