

The General Assembly is close to adjournment for the year, with only a couple of matters between them and adjournment. I, however, appear closer to adjournment for the week than is the legislature, and will pass this brief report along on what has transpired this week.

**HB 2438** is the **Budget Technical Corrections** bill, and contains provisions clarifying, correcting and focusing the funding nomenclature of the Health Insurance High Risk Pool. The bill as drafted last August contained some imprecise language about how funds would actually get from the General Assembly to the Risk Pool. A technical fix was needed, and I got called upon to help make the fix happen. It happened today when HB 2438 was ratified, and the flow of appropriated funds should now run to the Risk Pool without encumbrance or difficulty.

**HB 2431** is the **Studies Bill**. It too was adopted today. It includes provisions of **HB 2688** for the Institute of Medicine to study access to and affordability of health care, and while it authorizes a study of "health care finance", it seems to steer clear of single payer issues. Note that not all issues authorized for "off season" study get studied. The scope of the authorized studies is too enormous for each issue to receive scrutiny, and I will let you know should this particular study spring to life.

All else was quiet this week, and any time now the legislators should be able to head for home. I will follow up with my annual Closing Report, and join you in basking in the comfort that can only arise when the General Assembly is not in session. Have a good weekend, and I shall stay in touch.

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