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Paul Fronstin appointed to Maryland Health Care Commission

ANNAPOLIS—Maryland Gov. Martin O’Malley has appointed Paul Fronstin, Ph.D., head of health benefits research for the nonpartisan Employee Benefit Research Institute (EBRI), to the Maryland Health Care Commission.

Fronstin, director of the Health Research and Education Program at EBRI, is a nationally recognized expert on health care policy who has written extensively on health coverage, costs, and trends in employment-based benefits. He has been with EBRI since 1993.

The Maryland Health Care Commission is an independent regulatory agency whose mission is to plan for health system needs, promote informed decision-making, increase accountability, and improve access in a rapidly changing health care environment by providing timely and accurate information on availability, cost, and quality of services to policy makers, purchasers, providers and the public. The Commission’s goal is to ensure that informed consumers hold the health care system accountable and have access to affordable and appropriate health care services through programs that serve as models for the nation.

Fronstin will serve the remainder of a four-year term that started Oct. 1, 2011. His appointment is effective immediately, although it will require confirmation by the Maryland State Senate. Gov. O’Malley will submit the nomination for approval on the first day of the next legislative session.

Fronstin’s most recent publications appear in the September EBRI Issue Brief, on “Sources of Health Insurance and Characteristics of the Uninsured,” and in the September EBRI Notes, on the “2012 Health Confidence Survey: Americans Remain Confident About Health Care, Concerned About Costs, Following Supreme Court Decision,” both available online at www.ebri.org, as is a detailed listing of EBRI research on the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) and its potential impact on employment-based health benefits.

The Maryland Health Care Commission’s website is online at http://mhcc.dhmh.maryland.gov/SitePages/Home.aspx

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