## **Best Practices in Health Benefits Study**

The State of New Jersey will form a working group tasked with issuing a Transition Report with the objective of it being issued to the SHBC, PDC, and Governor-elect, on or before January 20, 2026. The Transition Report will identify the current drivers of soaring health care costs for the State Health Benefits Plan (SHBP) and offer a roadmap for the next Administration and Legislature on how to comprehensively address these problems.

The working group will be comprised of three State and two Labor representatives. To staff the working group and support the development of the Transition Report for the working group, the State will engage an independent consultant separate from any firm currently engaged by the SHBP Commission.

The Transition Report will be a forward-looking policy document focused on healthcare cost containment and policy innovation. Drawing on global best practices, this initiative will provide advisory recommendations for prospective plan changes and structural reforms to improve efficiency, reduce and control costs, and achieve better medical outcomes across the SHBP.

## Focus Areas:

- Payment reforms that establish site-neutral policies.
- Management of physician-administered injectable and infusion drugs and specialty drugs.
- Innovative contracting models with providers and pharmaceutical manufacturers, including alternative approaches for delivering pharmacy and medical benefits.
- Value-based/referenced base pricing care, population health strategies, and equitable access reforms.
- Governance models that ensure accountability and fiscal integrity.

On behalf of the Unions	On behalf of the State
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AFSCME	Director Governor's Office of Employee Relations
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Dated: September 4th, 2025 Dated: September 4, 2025